

Jordan Times

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IAEA denies S. African charge

VIENNA (R) — International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Hans Blix today denied South African charges he was biased against Pretoria over curbs on the spread of nuclear weapons. Blix said in a statement that the United Nations agency would inspect South African nuclear plants under its "safeguards" programme if Pretoria signed the 1970 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) just as it checked plans in other signatory states. South African Minister P.W. Botha Saturday admitted the country could make nuclear weapons if it wanted and said: "I believe the IAEA does not want to be part of the agency." The IAEA is one of the few world organisations of which Pretoria is still a member. "Personally I would welcome a South African adherence to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," IAEA Director-General Blix said in the statement, which was released by the agency's Vienna headquarters. Commenting on the NPT, Blix said IAEA officials to inspect their civilian nuclear plants to ensure that material is not being diverted into making weapons. "It goes without saying that the IAEA would administer the safeguards in South Africa the same way as is done in other countries," said Blix, who is holidaying in his native Sweden.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Doctors say Mandela improving

CAPE TOWN (AP) — Imprisoned African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela had shown noticeable improvement since he was admitted to the hospital for a lung ailment, a doctor said Sunday. Dr. J.G.L. Strauss, medical superintendent at Tygerberg Hospital, said that microscopic examinations had been conducted on pieces of tissue from the lining of Mandela's lungs but there was "no evidence of malignancy, only a chronic inflammatory condition of the pleura (the lung lining)." "I just hope he will get out of there," Strauss said.

Eritrean rebels report shelling Asmara

ABU DHABI (R) — An Eritrean separatist group said Sunday that its forces shelled and seriously damaged an Ethiopian military airport in the city of Asmara. Ahmed Al Haj Ali, representative of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front (EPLF) in Abu Dhabi, said the shelling Thursday in the Eritrean capital sparked fires which raged for two days. The EPLF is one of several groups fighting Addis Ababa for independence for the Red Sea province.

Diplomat to see Britons jailed in Iran

TEHRAN (R) — The first British diplomat to visit Tehran for more than a year said Sunday he would see two Britons jailed in Iran later this week. Businessman Roger Cooper and Nicholas Nicola are being held on spying charges. The diplomat, David Reddaway, said he had two sessions of talks with Foreign Ministry officials Sunday. "There is agreement I should see both Cooper and Nicola some time this week," he said (see related story on page 5).

India says 11 Pakistanis killed

JAMMU (AP) — Indian border guards shot and killed 11 Pakistanis after they attempted to intrude into India through the land border in the Jammu and Kashmir state Sunday, a senior Indian border officer said. M. Dogra, inspector general of the Border Security Force told reporters that an unspecified number of Pakistanis attempted to cross the border in the Samba sector. He said when challenged by Indian guards they opened fire, killing 11 Pakistanis. Others managed to escape back to Pakistan. "We cannot say for what purpose they wanted to cross the frontier illegally," Dogra said. "They certainly had a purpose, they could not have just strayed."

Rebels rocket Kabul on eve of pullout deadline

KABUL (R) — Rebels fired rockets into Kabul on the eve of Monday's deadline for the withdrawal of half the Soviet Union's 100,000-strong military force from Afghanistan. In Moscow, the official Soviet TASS news agency said the attack killed four women and a child and wounded six people. It said 14 people were killed and 20 wounded in rebel shelling of the eastern Afghan towns of Jirgatal and Khost. The pullout, which began May 15, has gathered momentum over the past week with the approach of the deadline, and an unnamed Moscow Radio said half of the Soviet contingent would have crossed the border by Sunday, one day ahead of schedule (see page 8).

Turkey referendum set for Sept. 25

ANKARA (R) — Turks will vote in a referendum Sept. 25 to decide on the date of local elections, Turkish state radio said Sunday. The referendum date was published in the official gazette, the radio said. Prime Minister Turgut Ozal wants local elections to be held four months early Nov. 13. Opposition parties say they want to turn the referendum into a vote of confidence in Ozal's economic policies.

Iraq to privatise tourism industry

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Sunday it would privatise its tourism industry as part of plans to sell off state-run enterprises. "The revolutionary Command Council (RCC) decided to dismantle the General Directorate of Tourism and its functions, authorising a committee of experts to sell or rent it to the private sector on a 25-year lease," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. The General Directorate of Tourism owns hotels and other facilities throughout Iraq. Hussein Kamel, newly-appointed minister of industry and military industrialisation, said last week Iraq would sell off 47 state-run factories in a drive to boost private industry.

Briton, W. German share top Locarno prize

LOCARNO, Switzerland (R) — British director Terence Davies shared the "Golden Leopard" top prize at the 1988 Locarno International Film Festival with Wolfgang Becker of West Germany. Davies was honoured for "Distant Voices, Still Lives" while Becker won the prize for his film "Schmetterlinge" (Butterflies). "The festival was a triumph for Indian director Jahn Barua (winner of the second prize) and a special jury prize. Iranian director Nasser Taghvaie came third with his film 'Captain Khorshid'."

Soviet ultra-nationalist group under fire

MOSCOW (AP) — The government newspaper Izvestia, in one of the harshest official condemnations to date, has accused a Russian ultra-nationalist group of fomenting ethnic strife and opposing Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's wide-ranging reform programme. The newspaper also published a quarter-page letter under the headline "Unclean play on clean feelings," from a group of Leningrad scholars who called the organisation, "Fenyat," "a deadly threat to our future." Fenyat, which has branches in many Soviet cities, has been holding outdoor rallies every Thursday in Leningrad, and official and unofficial sources say local authorities have done little to stop them.

W. Germany expects further IRA attacks

COLOGNE (AP) — Federal Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann warned that the Irish Republican Army (IRA) was likely to continue its attacks on British military installations in West Germany. Zimmermann, a newspaper reported Sunday, the IRA, which has stepped up its attacks on British servicemen in continental Europe, claimed responsibility for killing a West German soldier in Belgium. "We must assume that there will be further IRA attacks in West Germany and especially on British military installations," the Cologne newspaper Express quoted Zimmermann as saying.

Afghan foreign minister in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil arrived in Moscow Sunday, the Soviet news agency TASS reported. He said he was stopping in Moscow on his way from the Afghan capital, Kabul, to Helsinki. The Soviet Foreign Ministry announced last week that he would give a news conference here Monday.

Iranian minister visits Tripoli

BEIRUT (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Tripoli Sunday for talks with Libyan leaders about the UN-sponsored ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war. The official Libyan news agency IANA, monitored in Beirut, quoted him as saying his visit was within "the framework of discussing the latest developments in the Gulf." Velayati arrived in Libya from Damascus (see page 5).

3-day talks conclude with broad understanding over basic issues

PLO expresses satisfaction with Jordanian step

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) concluded three days of meetings here Sunday during which the PLO welcomed Jordan's severance of formal links with the Israeli-occupied West Bank as a boost to the Palestinian struggle and the Kingdom extended support for any PLO move aimed at realising the national aspirations of the Palestinian people.

A joint statement issued at the end of the meeting and carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the PLO delegation which attended the talks "expressed complete satisfaction with the (Jordanian) decision and with all the resulting measures... and conviction that the decision serves the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's aspirations to demonstrate their national identity on their land..."

Following is an unofficial translation of the joint statement:

(Continued on page 5)

At least 12 Palestinians wounded

W. Bank, Gaza greet new year with violent protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(Agencies) — Israeli soldiers Sunday shot and wounded at least 12 Palestinians, including five teenagers, as violence flared in the occupied Gaza Strip at the start of the Islamic New Year, hospital officials said.

The Israeli army announced that it closed the 360-square-kilometre Gaza Strip to outside visitors, including journalists.

Israeli officials said 187,000 Palestinians in a dozen locations in Gaza and the West Bank were living under curfew, which confined them to their homes indefinitely.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin reported to Israel's 25-member cabinet about the eight-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Rabin said the army's next objective would be to try to break the influence of Palestinian committees in the occupied territories.

which have been orchestrating protests and trying to establish self-rule, Israel Radio reported.

An unnamed Israeli military official briefed the government leaders on the possibility of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) declaring a state in the occupied territories or establishing a government-in-exile.

Protests erupted Sunday a day after two Palestinians died in confrontations with Israeli troops. One victim was reported by two Israeli newspapers to be a 12-year-old boy from Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank.

Witnesses quoted by the AP said that in several parts of Gaza, violence began after protesters littered streets with nails Sunday, puncturing the tires of military vehicles. Palestinian flags were also draped over electricity wires, they said.

Underground leaflets from fundamentalist groups had called for demonstrations to coincide with the Islamic New Year, 1409, and Israeli officials had said they expected a new wave of protests.

Gaza City's Shifa and Ahli hospitals said they treated nine Palestinians shot and wounded by soldiers in the Suja'ye neighbourhood and at Jabalya refugee camp. Two Palestinians were treated for beatings and a 12th for rubber bullet wounds.

Palestinians said violence was widespread as shops closed, traffic stopped and residents stayed home from work in accordance with a strike call by the Islamic Resistance Movement marking the new year.

Foreign relief workers said soldiers several times this week broke into houses in Sha'ti refugee camp, beat youths and forced them to remove debris from the streets as a punishment for throwing stones at troops.

Rising Nile poses worse threat to flood-hit Sudan

KHARTOUM (Agencies) —

The swollen waters of the River Nile crept inexorably towards the record 1946 level Sunday, threatening Sudan with its flood this century.

Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem said the flooded Nile posed a serious danger from the central region to the Egyptian border and had already made nearly two million homeless.

Irrigation Minister Mahmoud Beshir Gamaa told Reuters Saturday night the river had risen 14 centimetres since Friday, bringing its level to 16.21 metres.

This was some 79 centimetres less than the peak of Sudan's worst floods in living memory 42 years ago.

"The period between Aug. 20 and the first week of September is crucial. Once that is over, Sudan will be safe," said Gamaa.

The official toll so far has been put at 58 dead and more than 200 injured in Khartoum, the capital city of four million.

The Atbara river in northern Sudan and the Al Qash rivers in the east have already burst their banks causing extensive damage in surrounding areas.

The daily Egyptian newspaper Al Gomhuriya reported in an unattributed dispatch from Khartoum that the death count from the floods was 400. Before more heavy rains hit the ravaged region, the government reported the official toll from the disaster stood at 39 people killed and an estimated \$200 million in damage.

Sudan, its 23 million population ranking among the world's poorest, has appealed for international help.

The most generous response has come from Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd personally donated 30 million riyals (\$8 million) in addition to running an airlift of supplies.

Nour Al Dayem, head of an emergency committee set up to tackle the flood disaster, told a news conference Saturday night that 85 plane loads of relief aid had so far arrived — 35 of them from Saudi Arabia.

He said 1,200 tonnes of relief supplies had been sent, mostly tents and blankets.

Flanked by six army generals and 18 ministers and government officials, Nour Al Dayem said more help was needed.

"We feel the relief we have received so far is very little and that is why you see people crying in many areas that they did not receive anything," he added.

Western relief agencies urged the Sudanese government to allow non-governmental organisations to help distribute supplies. They said the Sudanese army, which is handling most of the distribution, was not reaching some of those affected.

The Cairo daily Al Akhbar quoted unidentified relief agency officials as saying the renewed rains, together with the expected flooding of the Nile, delayed distribution of aid and shortages of electricity, drinking water and food, creating "an extremely dangerous situation."

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Libyan message outlines Arab confederation plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty

King Hussein received a letter from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Sunday outlining the Libyan proposal for a confederation of Arab states, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Petra said the letter was delivered to the King by Libyan envoy Abdul Ati Obeidi, one of several emissaries touring Arab states to discuss the Libyan plan, briefly outlined at the Arab League summit in Algiers in June.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Oqasem attended the meeting.

Libyan Ambassador to Morocco Mohammed Abdul Zawi said last month in Rabat the confederation would have a joint supreme council of heads of states with a rotating chairmanship.

Each country would retain its independence and conduct its own foreign policy, but all would work together for a common Arab goal, Zawi said.

The Libyan foreign minister is currently visiting the Gulf states with messages from Qadhafi.

Ibrahimi arrives

Meanwhile, Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Amman with a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to His Majesty, Petra said. It did not give details.

Ibrahimi was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Dhuqan Al Hindawi, Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabih Nimer and the Algerian ambassador in Amman.



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday receives Libyan envoy Abdul Ati Obeidi, who delivered to him a message from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi (Petra photo)

Cabinet adopts steps to encourage investment

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government said Sunday it had taken steps to encourage investment and boost exports and had eased protectionist measures on several local commodities.

A statement from the Prime Ministry carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said bans on importing some locally-produced goods, including food products, detergents and batteries, would be lifted and replaced with import tariffs. The decisions were taken at a Cabinet meeting Friday, Petra said.

Import bans would be retained on some other items, including tomato paste, tobacco, fresh milk and cheese, mineral water and salt, according to the statement.

The statement said the Cabinet had also decided to offer tax incentives for investment in productive fields. A special department would be created in the Ministry of Industry and Trade to deal with investment inquiries by local and foreign businesses.

The Cabinet asked the Central Bank and the Ministry of Finance to prepare a draft law on export guarantees and to study the feasibility of providing credit to Arab and foreign exporters of Jordanian goods.

The new measures entitle investors and companies to launch industrial or agricultural projects, and expand existing projects without getting any licence from the Ministry of Industry and Trade or the Ministry of Agriculture.

U.N. teams visit Gulf fronts as ceasefire force builds up

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — U.N.

military observers surveyed Iran-Iraq battlefields Sunday to pave the way for a formal ceasefire to go into effect in six days time.

Small groups of the advance party of U.N. military observers left Tehran and Baghdad for the warfront to investigate logistical needs for the U.N. peacekeeping force to be deployed on both sides.

A diplomatic source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the AP in Tehran that the location of the border was not expected to cause major negotiating problems. The U.N. observers' primary job will be to make sure that no one violates the truce," the source said.

Forces of both countries are now more or less positioned along the border as hammered out in a 1975 treaty. Iran wants the ceasefire agreement to be based on that treaty, the Algiers accords, which gave them half of the Shatt Al Arab waterway.

Iraq has repudiated that agreement, and the struggle for control over the waterway helped start the fighting. The Shatt Al Arab, the delta of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, is Iraq's only outlet to the sea.

A diplomat told Reuters in Baghdad the five members of an advance unit which arrived in the Iraqi capital on Tuesday split up to visit different sectors of the 1,200-kilometre front, which ran

gers from rugged mountains in the north to marshes in the south.

A dozen men from Canada's 88th Signals Squadron were due to arrive after midnight, the first of 485 Canadians who will set up communications for the 350-man U.N. Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG).

Thirteen Canadian observers were expected to fly in Monday and 50 from the signals unit Tuesday, but no date has been set for the arrival of the main body, the diplomat said.

Observers from Denmark, Senegal, Poland, Hungary, Nigeria, Malaysia and Yugoslavia were due in the next two days, a U.N. source said.

UNIMOG plans to set up

main bases in Iraq at Kirkuk in the north, Baghdad in the centre and Basra in the south, the diplomat told Reuters. Ten observer units would be attached to each base, with three or four observers in each unit.

The United Nations has had little time to get the observers to the war front since Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar set the ceasefire date six days ago, but the Finnish commander of the five-man advance group was confident it could be done.

"They (the observers) will all be here by August 20," Lieutenant-General Yrjo Hielanen told Reuters.

Hassan II: Referendum only way to peace in Sahara

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has said that a United Nations-sponsored referendum was the only way to resolve the Western Sahara conflict.

"Only an international referendum, recognised by the United Nations, under U.N. control and approved by the U.N. can lead to a clear... situation," he said in an interview with Algerian journalists.

The interview, broadcast late Saturday by Algerian and Moroccan television, follows the recent reconciliation of the two states after a 12-year rift.

King Hassan made the statement a few days after U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar proposed a peace plan to representatives of Morocco and the Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas.

The Polisario has been fighting Morocco for independence of the former Spanish colony since 1976.

Rabat has called for a self-determination referendum with no prior negotiations but this is rejected by Algeria and the Polisario while Moroccan troops control of four-fifths of the desert territory.

Moroccan officials have not commented on the plan.

Population puzzle in Sahara, page 8

Israel seeks to reduce number of employees in West Bank hospitals

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Israeli authorities have recently introduced measures designed to reduce the number of employees in hospitals within the occupied Arab territories by at least 40 per cent, according to a report by the Department of Palestinian Affairs (DPA).

The report said the Israelis have already closed five hospitals and a number of sections in others, imposing fees on all patients in advance of any medical treatment.

The Israelis, it stated, have introduced other measures designed "to create difficulties for the Arab population, such as imposing additional fees for those who fail to renew their identity cards, banning the sale of crops

produced by villages known to be active against the occupation authorities and increasing fees for travel permits.

Losses incurred by Beit Ummar town in the occupied West Bank, due to Israel's severe measures, were estimated at JD 1.5 million, according to the report published Sunday in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily.

The Israelis also were said to have confiscated a total of 2.8

million dunums of Arab land from 1967 to the end of July 1988, introducing measures to create new Jewish settlements.

"The Israeli authorities continue to restrict freedom, impose harsh punishments on the Arabs, demolish homes of detained citizens and impose heavy fines on merchants," the report stated.

In addition, it said, these authorities have banned men under 35 from travelling to Amman or Egypt, unless they secure clearance from the military governors in their respective regions.

Harsh measures and curfews are still being imposed on various refugee camps throughout the occupied Arab lands, the report added.

National committee discusses measures to curtail crime

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Higher National Committee for Combating Crime in Jordan held a meeting here Saturday evening under the chairmanship of Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali to discuss working papers and regulations dealing with measures that could be introduced to curtail crime.

Attending the meeting were heads of subcommittees who had taken part in the national committee's first meeting held in June.

Col. Ibrahim Harb from the PSD's Public Relations Department submitted a working paper on a national strategy against crime, and Colonel Isam Hiltu presented another paper on juvenile delinquency.

Other papers dealing with embezzlement of public funds, the duties of a subcommittee dealing with premeditated murder and protecting society from the danger of drugs, were all reviewed at the meeting which was held at the PSD's Officers Club.

The national committee's first

meeting in June heard views of PSD officials, religious leaders and lawyers about crimes in the Kingdom.

However they all pointed out with satisfaction the fact that crimes in Jordan dropped dramatically last year to be 18,129 compared with 19,579 in 1986.

They said that there is no organised crime in Jordan, despite the fact that more sophisticated methods are being used nowadays by the criminals.

Participants in the meeting highlighted the role of family, social institutions and official organisations in educating people on crimes and means of countering them.

Majali last April reported the figures on crime and said that PSD records indicated that a drop of 5.4 per cent in juvenile delinquency occurred last year compared with the 1986 figures.

He said last year there were 27.4 per cent less thefts and robberies, and 8.1 per cent less acts of fraud than in 1986.

It said the other two casualties occurred in another accident in which two vehicles collided near North Shuneh. The second accident also injured seven people.

The paper stated that in one of these accidents a 13-year-old boy, Hazem Shaker, and his eight-year-old brother, Thabet, were

killed. A third, Fakhri Mohammad, was injured when a car in which they were riding skidded off the road and overturned.

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The minister said that the provincial governors will discuss the question of firing which had led to the death and injury of many innocent people.

Dajani to meet governors today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A meeting by provincial governors will take place Monday under the chairmanship of Interior Minister Rajai Dajani to discuss issues connected with the election law of 1986, and the question of registering voters for parliamentary elections.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic daily quoted Dajani as saying the discussions will also cover a new set of administrative divisions and constituencies within the East Bank following Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative

links with the West Bank.

Dajani was quoted as saying that the new measures and regulations will be issued following the meeting.

Jordan's decision to sever links with the West Bank, announced last month, coinciding with a Royal Decree dissolving Parliament which was composed of 60 members half of whom were from the West Bank.

The House was elected shortly before the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and was suspended in 1974 following the adoption of a resolu-

tion by an Arab summit held in Rabat that named the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

According to Al Dustour report, Dajani said strict measures will be taken from now on to deter members of the public from using fire arms during weddings and other occasions.

The minister said that the provincial governors will discuss the question of firing which had led to the death and injury of many innocent people.

The meeting, the 35th of its kind by nations around the Mediterranean, will review a report on the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s efforts to sup-



Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat Sunday opens a week-long gathering of youths at the Ajloun permanent camping site (Petra photo)

Youth gathering opens in Ajloun

AJLOUN (Petra) — A week-long gathering of youths from different parts of the country opened at the permanent camping site near here Sunday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat, who opened the programme on behalf of Prince Hassan, said his ministry was striving to help youths to attain their aspirations and serve their country and society.

"This gathering is part of the ministry's activities, which seek

to serve the youths of this country, fostering in them loyalty to their King and a sense of belonging to their nation," Khleifat said.

"The Ministry of Youth, working closely with the Ministries of Education, Higher Education and Jordanian universities, set up several committees to supervise and organise programmes for youth from different backgrounds," Khleifat said.

He said the Ministry of Youth is also involved in publishing a series of cultural books and has

plans for establishing a cultural institute for youth, to give training to leaders of youth clubs and organisations and to work out plans for promoting the youth and sports movements in the Kingdom.

The minister toured the camping site and inspected workshops which will be used by the participants who will also be involved in other activities such as tours of tourist sites, seminars and lectures and carrying out recreational activities.

Islamic council seeks international conference to combat narcotics

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Islamic Organisations and Societies Council in Amman sent a memorandum to all ambassadors of Arab countries demanding an international conference be held as soon as possible to discuss ways of dealing with narcotics.

A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday quoted council members as saying the memorandum proposed enacting laws that would impose the penalty of death on those who trade in drugs

and those who promote the sale of any type of narcotics.

The memorandum also demanded that laws be introduced to provide blood testing of motorcar drivers to determine if they have a history of drug addiction, according to the paper.

It stated that blood tests should also be conducted on workers in factories, students in universities and secondary schools and employees in public and private organisations.

The report suggested that strict penalties be imposed on those found to have used drugs.

The paper quoted council members as demanding financial rewards to be presented to people who help the police arrest drug traffickers.

The memorandum proposed that countries producing or promoting the sale of drugs should be boycotted economically and diplomatically through the United Nations.

Jordan to take part in Geneva talks on health issues, AIDS

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will be among a group of nations to take part in a meeting scheduled for Oct. 3 in Geneva to discuss health problems including measures that should be taken to combat AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) in the Eastern Mediterranean, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday.

The meeting, the 35th of its kind by nations around the Mediterranean, will review a report on the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s efforts to sup-

port national programmes in their effort to fight off the killer disease.

Jordan, according to the report, will be represented at the meeting by a high level delegation from the Ministry of Health which has been undertaking measures recently to counter the spread of the killer disease in Jordan.

Jordan was one of 13 countries that asked WHO for assistance in dealing with AIDS.

Jordan also set up a national committee that launched several

programmes to combat the killer disease.

Last year, the Ministry of Health set up the committee whose task was to increase awareness about AIDS, following the appearance of several cases in the Kingdom, some of which were fatal.

A WHO report said the organisation plans to spend approximately \$66 million on combating the disease world-wide during 1988, of which \$45 million will go to support national programmes.

Jordan celebrates Hijra New Year

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan, along with other Arab and Islamic nations, Sunday celebrated the Hijra New Year with religious ceremonies in various mosques.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, which supervises religious celebrations, will hold a special ceremony on the occasion at the Grand Hussein Mosque in downtown Amman Monday afternoon.

His Majesty King Hussein received cables of good wishes from a number of leaders of Arab and

Islamic nations, including King Hassan of Morocco, Sultan Qaboos of Oman, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, South Yemen's President Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi and the President of the Maldives Mamoun Abdul Qayyum.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KING CONGRATULATES S. KOREA: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable of good wishes to the South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo on his country's National Day. In the cable, the King wished the president continued health and happiness, and more progress and prosperity for the South Korean people.

RIFAI SENDS CONDOLENCES: Prime Minister Zaid Rifai delegated the Police Department director in Karak to offer condolences to Al Majali family on the death of Atallah Al Majali who passed away last week.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXAMS: Results of the final examinations by students of community colleges in Jordan should be ready during the last week of August, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily. It said a total of 16,725 students had taken the examinations given by the Ministry of Higher Education last month.

MINISTER APPROVES OF PROJECTS: Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jaber approved of road projects in the northern town of Ramtha costing JD 16,980. The minister also approved of a tender for the construction of a village council in Muma in Karak Governorate at the cost of JD 15,000. According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister named Nov. 14 as the date for municipal elections in Tafleeh in southern Jordan.

QATANANI HEADS DEPARTMENT: Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, former secretary general of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs has been appointed director general of the Department of Palestinian Affairs at the Foreign Ministry. The department was created following Jordan's severing of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

NEW HEAD FOR RCC: Sharif Zaid Ibn Hussein has been appointed director general of the Royal Cultural Centre. He succeeds Mr. Isam Arida, who had been appointed director general of the Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily.

CONFERENCE ON SOCIOLOGY: Yarmouk University will participate in an international conference on sociology which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Dr. Atef Adiat will represent Jordan at the conference and will submit a research paper on demographic and social changes in the Third World.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS COMPLETED: The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has completed work on school buildings and health centres within the Madaba district at a cost of JD 156,964. The health centres are at Mushaqqar, Mikawer, and Deir.

GUVS DISCUSSES ACTIVITIES: A General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) committee in Tafleeh discussed the activities of voluntary and charitable societies in Tafleeh district, deciding to allocate JD 5,600 to these societies to promote their work. The committee also decided to organise two training courses for leaders of voluntary societies in cooperation with the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- * Architectural exhibition at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.
- * Art exhibition: "Silent Nature" at the University of Jordan.
- * Paintings exhibition by Edward Horan at the Royal Cultural Centre.

JORDANTIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
16:00 Koran
16:20 Programme review
16:25 Cartoons and children programmes
17:10 Programme on animal life
17:30 Scientific programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:20 Kuwaiti series
19:00 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:25 Programme on Arabic language
22:10 Cultural programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Cultural programme contd.

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Des Chiffres et Des Lettres
18:30 Rue croquet
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Bicycle Safety
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Perfect Strangers
21:00 Masterworks
21:10 Essay at the Door
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Angel Dust"

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& partly on 95.60 KHz. SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:30 Light Music
07:50 News
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Just a Minute
11:00 Good Vibrations
11:30 Readings
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Special Feature
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Young Sound
18:00 Pop Session
18:05 News Summary
18:05 Sports Roundup

18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:25 News Summary
22:05 Evening Show Continued
23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show Continued
24:00 Close Downs

WORLDNET

(At the American Cultural Centre)
8:00 America Today
11:00 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
13:00 America Today
14:00 Hour USA
15:00 Worldnet Dialogue: Privatization

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Where Angels Fear to Tread 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Waveguide 08:00 World News 08:05 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:45 Recording of the Week 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Film of the Week 10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 The Cross and the Crescent 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 Where Angels Fear to Tread 11:30 Anything Goes 12:00 World News 12:05 British Press Review 12:15 Good Books 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Poshies' Choice 13:00 Film of the Week 13:30 The Village Chart Show 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 Sportsweek 14:30 The Ken Bruce Show 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Brain of Britain 15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:05 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News 17:45 The Third Policeman 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 Film of the Week 18:45 Glyndebourne - The Early Years 19:00 World News 19:05 News About Britain 19:15 A Life in the U.N. 19:30 The A-Z of Hollywood 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:05 Commentary 20:15 Death over 20:40 Sports Round-up 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Multitrack 1: Top 20

22:00 Outlook, opening with News Summary 22:30 Stock Market Report 22:45 Poshies' Choice 23:00 World News 23:05 Twenty-Fours: News Summary 23:30 Pilgrims Progress 24:00 News Summary followed by Network U.K. 09:15 The Seven Ages of Shakespeare 09:30 The Village Chart Show 01:00 World News 01:05 The World Today 01:30 Financial News 01:45 Reflections 01:45 Sports Round-up 02:00 World News 02:05 Commentary 02:15 Three Wishes 02:30 Multitrack 1: Top 20

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 720, 955, 1170, 1195 and 1510 KHz

07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 08:40 News 09:00 Newsline 09:10 News 09:30 Newsline 09:40 News 09:50 Newsline 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline 10:20 News 10:30 Newsline 10:40 News 10:50 Newsline 11:00 News 11:10 Newsline 11:20 News 11:30 Newsline 11:40 News 11:50 Newsline 12:00 News 12:10 Newsline 12:20 News 12:30 Newsline 12:40 News 12:50 Newsline 13:00 News 13:10 Newsline 13:20 News 13:30 Newsline 13:40 News 13:50 Newsline 14:00 News 14:10 Newsline 14:20 News 14:30 Newsline 14:40 News 14:50 Newsline 15:00 News 15:10 Newsline 15:20 News 15:30 Newsline 15:40 News 15:50 Newsline 16:00 News 16:10 Newsline 16:20 News 16:30 Newsline 16:40 News 16:50 Newsline 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:20 News 17:30 Newsline 17:40 News 17:50 Newsline 18:00 News 18:10 Newsline 18:20 News 18:30 Newsline 18:40 News 18:50 Newsline 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:20 News 19:30 Newsline 19:40 News 19:50 Newsline 20:00 News 20:10 Newsline 20:20 News 20:30 Newsline 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97:20 News 97:30 Newsline 97:40 News 97:50 Newsline 98:00 News 98:10 Newsline 98:20 News 98:30 Newsline 98:40 News 98:50 Newsline 99:00 News 99:10 Newsline 99:20 News



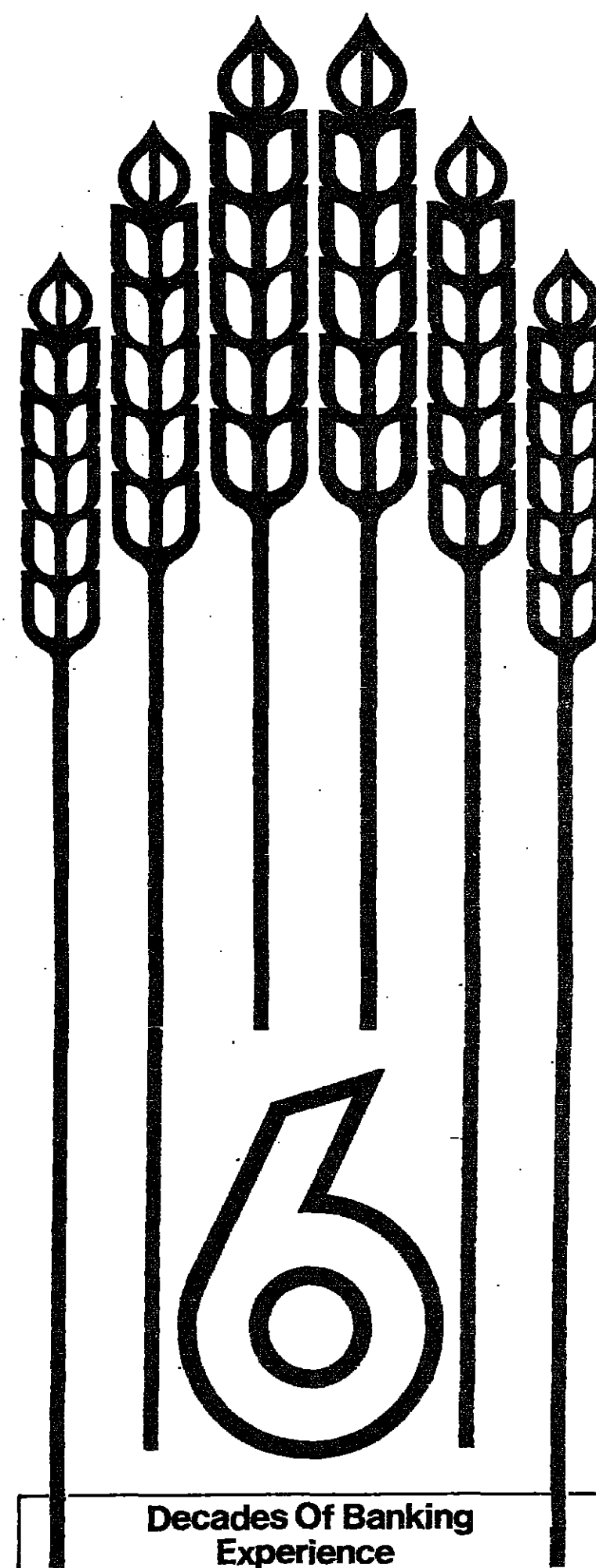
ARAB BANK LTD GROUP

ESTABLISHED IN JERUSALEM 1930

Statement of Condition, 30th June, 1988

ASSETS	30/6/1988 U.S.\$	30/6/1987 U.S.\$
Cash in hand and at banks	8,042,601,836	7,981,038,822
Securities and investments	1,020,150,387	804,413,724
Investments in associated Companies	183,582,413	167,823,068
Bills discounted	225,016,139	182,025,156
Loans	3,555,268,378	3,021,779,553
Fixed assets	71,607,865	70,514,003
Customers' liability on Acceptances	85,562,533	72,457,626
Other assets	211,028,444	177,818,434
Total Assets	13,394,817,995	12,477,870,386
Customers' liability on guarantees and letters of credit	1,924,638,842	1,817,337,479
Balance sheet total	15,319,456,837	14,295,207,865
LIABILITIES	30/6/1988 U.S.\$	30/6/1987 U.S.\$
Deposits and other accounts	12,546,767,415	11,679,126,704
other liabilities	47,151,835	40,641,811
Acceptances	85,562,533	72,457,626
Total liabilities	12,679,481,783	11,792,226,141
Capital	77,946,000	89,126,916
Statutory reserve	68,244,891	71,765,782
General reserve	268,841,027	247,540,999
Voluntary reserve	101,536,692	95,169,061
Reserve with associates	145,320,767	128,027,814
Retained earnings	53,446,835	54,013,673
Total shareholders' equity	715,336,212	685,644,245
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	13,394,817,995	12,477,870,386
Guarantees and letters of credit	1,924,638,842	1,817,337,479
Balance sheet total	15,319,456,837	14,295,207,865

J.D. 1 = U.S.\$ 2.74 (approximately) on 30/6/1988
J.D. 1 = U.S.\$ 2.93 (approximately) on 30/6/1987



Arab Bank Branches — Jordan

General Management: P.O. Box: 950544, 950545 - Shmeisani, Amman - Jordan, Cable: Bankarabi, Tel: 660115, 660131, Fax: 606793, Tlx: = 23091 ARABNK JO.

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Fax 670192
Tlx. = 23092 ARABNK JO
= 23683 ARABJC JO

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King Faisal Street
Tel 638161-9
Fax 637082
Tlx. 21273 ARABNK JO
21620 ARABNK JO
= 21230 ARABNK JO

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Amman
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Fax 649305
Tlx. = 23416 ARABDA JO

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Fax 573184

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Fax 822905

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() Arabic/Latin Telex Machine

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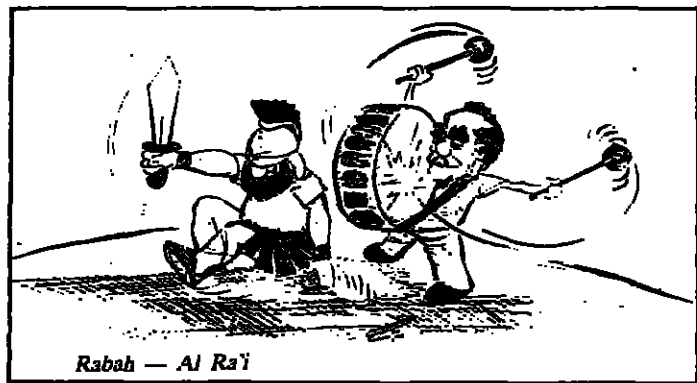
Try the Palestinian option

ONE ISRAELI school of thought in the wake of Jordan's decision to sever formal links with the occupied West Bank is that the Kingdom has dealt a severe blow to the Labour Party's chances in the general elections to be held in November. The argument goes that Jordan's break with the West Bank, and the emphasis on the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, have pulled the rug from under the Labour Party's "peace platform," which advocated the "Jordanian option" as the key to settling the Palestinian problem.

One asks: Did the Labour Party — or any other party in Israel — expect Jordan to play the game to serve Israeli political interests? Those who insist that it was the latest Jordanian move that threw cold water on the Labour Party's election prospects should enlighten themselves. Numerous were the analyses and observations by well-informed Israeli, Arab and Western experts that the "Jordanian option" was long gone before July 31, 1988, when the Kingdom announced its severance of formal links with the West Bank. In any event, it is a waste of time to debate the issue, since neither Labour nor its rival Likud has any record of seeking peace based on justice and fairness. If anything, let us not forget that it was under a Labour government that the Zionist state launched the 1967 war and the record of Labour in full power for decades is one of repeated aggression and systematic moves to obliterate the Arab and Palestinian identity of the occupied territories.

Shimon Peres and company have only themselves to blame for their misfortunes. Yet, they could still speak the truth to voters — that the security and stability of their country could be ensured only through recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and not through the illegitimacy of occupying other people's land. There is little doubt that a majority of the Israeli people have recognised the futility of continuing to suppress the Palestinian people's quest for their legitimate rights, and that it is time for them to exercise the "Palestinian option" — the only option there ever was.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Al Ra'i: March of sacrifices

MILLIONS of Muslims Sunday celebrate Hijra new year and remember the great achievement of the Prophet Mohammad more than 14 centuries ago. The prophet's emigration to Medina marks the beginning of the new year, and brings with it new hope for millions of Arab people. The emigration marked the beginning of a great Islamic culture and civilisation, based on faith and science and capable of embarking on creative work along with the struggle to spread Islam throughout the world. Over the past 14 centuries, the Muslims have been struggling to spread Islam, to achieve justice and uphold noble ideals. Struggle has taken the form of defending the homeland and the Arab nation's rights and interests. Emigration of the prophet from Mecca to Medina marked the beginning of a long march of sacrifices involved in the struggle for freedom; and the Muslims' observance of the occasion reflects their adherence to the just struggle and their faith on their march to play a leading role in reasserting their great cultural status in the world.

Al Dustour: Explaining motives

KING Hussein Saturday explained to the PLO delegation the motives behind Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank and Jordan's firm stand with regard to the Palestine cause. There is no doubt that Jordan's position emanates from the country's long-standing national commitment and reflects its true desire to serve Arab causes and safeguard Arab interests. Although the Jordanian move was clearly in response to the desires of the PLO and the Arab states, there is nothing that can stand in the way of Jordan's backing for the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom. King Hussein's announcement of the Jordanian decision contained affirmations that the Kingdom was interested in taking all possible measures to alleviate the sufferings of the oppressed people under Israeli rule.

Sawt Al Shaab: Remember sacrifices

THE New Hijra Year is an opportunity for Muslims to remember the emigration of the Prophet Mohammad to Medina and his long and strenuous struggle for laying the basis for an Islamic civilisation. Today, we are in dire need of the spirit that prevailed in the days of the prophet, with the true cooperation and affection that dominated the prophet's companions and their allies in Medina at the time of the Hijra. It was the prophet who brought about harmony and consensus among the earlier Muslims in Medina, something which they badly needed before embarking on their mission throughout the world. The earlier Muslims carried the standards of peace and affection, something which Muslims need these days in order to earn how to carry on the struggle and to maintain solidarity among Muslim nations. The Hijra new year should give us time to remember the great sacrifices which the prophet and the earlier Muslims had to offer their nation and remember the great achievements of the Hashemite family and its long struggle to unite the Arabs and bring them freedom.

Consider the Canadian case

By Waleed M. Sadi

AS I prepared to leave Canada, three interesting juridical issues surfaced on the Canadian scene. I wish to submit them for the consideration of Jordanians as they may become relevant to us at a future date.

The first, and by far the most pressing and critical legal issue among the three is the one related to fetus rights. Fetus rights once submerged and glossed over in many societies and cultures attracted Canadian attention in conjunction with the overriding issue of abortion. A certain militant anti-abortion activist is arguing before the Canadian supreme court that basic human rights and freedoms as spelled out in the Canadian charter of rights and freedoms apply to fetuses as much as they apply to individuals. In other words, it is being argued that fetuses are entitled to the equal protection of the Canadian law just as any other Canadian human being, old or young. Accordingly, it is being submitted for the adjudication of the Canadian supreme court, the right to life of any given fetus cannot be determined by any parent or parents. The Canadian supreme court has yet to render its judgment on this "hot" legal and social issue. But already many side issues have spilled off the central issue of abortion. Thus under both American and Canadian jurisprudences, biological fathers are seeking injunctions against biological mothers who got pregnant out of wedlock and want to dispose of their "embarrassments". The fathers argue that their fatherhood rights would be compromised and denied if their biological offspring are aborted at the whim of the mothers. Many in fact have sought and been granted such injunctions. But the current litigations associated with the central issue of abortion are only the tip of the iceberg. What is surely more fundamental and substantive is the inherent rights of the fetuses themselves independently of any rights that accrue to

either biological father or mother or both.

Surely a day will come when our legal sophistication will develop to the extent that it has attained in the developed world and will have to address this matter head on. Yet to start reflecting on this matter as of now would be prudent and practical. The day of reckoning will surely be with us sooner than we think. The Jordanian Bar Association would be well advised to start this process by making the issue a case celebre before our highest benches.

The second "hot" issue which is being debated within and without the Canadian judicial systems revolves around the franchise of civil servants. The federal court of appeals in Canada made legal history when it struck down as unconstitutional the sections in the Canadian public service employment act which purported to make federal civil servants neutral politically. The court said in so many words that the denial of political rights to civil servants including the right to associate for political purposes would render the civil and political rights of Canadians a hollow objective. There you have it. In Canada now, civil servants can engage in political activities and vote according to their free volition. Will we have to address this policy and legal issue at a latter stage in our development? Perhaps, and perhaps not. To be sure this particular national policy is not likely to figure highly on our list of priorities. Nevertheless, I thought of highlighting this subject matter which is occupying Canadians everywhere in view of its potentialities on the tortuous road of perfecting our civil service system.

Even less relevant to us than the aforementioned second Canadian issue is the third one. Believe it or not this third Canadian concern has to do with the voting rights of prisoners. Again an Ontario supreme court has recently acted on this matter and made court law

by striking down as unconstitutional a provision in Ontario's election act that disenfranchised prisoners of all people. The Ontario court has concurred with the submissions of the lawyer for a convicted robber that the provision in the Ontario election act which disenfranchised prisoners violates a guarantee in the Canadian charter of rights and freedoms which gives all Canadian citizens the right to vote in the election of the members of the House of Commons. The court has noted that the punishment of the robber or any other felon lies in confinement and not in the deprivation of his or her political constitutional rights under the charter of rights and freedoms. The court went on to observe that the said charter contained no limitations on the right to vote by criminals as is the case under American jurisprudence where the fourteenth amendment to the U.S. constitution made a specific reference to the disenfranchisement of prisoners.

I think it is interesting and enlightening to note what occupies the attention of other societies and civilisations. The dynamics of modernisation will surely put us on a collision course with such or similar issues in the future. As we legislate into the future it would be beneficial to keep abreast of futuristic legal subject matters as of now by reflecting on them sooner than later. Surely we can profit from the experiences of others by taking note of their process of modernisation. It would be in order, therefore, if our concerned authorities could monitor and chronicle the juridical developments of other societies with a view to gaining from them in a selective manner that suits our own conditions. It is against this backdrop that I cite the current "hot" legal issues in Canada. I trust this writing would be viewed in this vein.

Bush: No to a Palestinian state

WASHINGTON — Vice President George Bush has expressed strong opposition to creation of an independent Palestinian state which "is inimical" to the security interests of Israel and the United States.

In his Middle East position paper, obtained by Arab News, the Republican presidential hopeful says that direct talks are the only viable means of establishing peace between Israel and its neighbours.

"The U.S.," he stresses, "will neither impose a settlement, nor will be a party to any effort to do so through a multilateral entity." Bush said the United States would not support any role in the peace process for the Palestine Liberation Organisation unless the PLO recognises "Israel's right to exist."

However Bush acknowledged that there would "never be a lasting peace" in the region until an equitable solution to the Palestinian problem is found and Palestinians involved in every step of the process.

Bush's policy stand is little changed from the current strategy followed by the Reagan administration of unequivocal support for Israel.

Bush renewed the pledge to defend Israel. "We will continue to maintain Israel's qualitative advantage over any adversary or coalition of adversaries," the position paper states.

In this connection, the paper mentioned U.S.-Israeli cooperation to produce anti-tactical ballistic missiles in the 1990s and joint development efforts for advanced conventional weapons system.

The following are the excerpts from the position paper: "The U.S. believes that promoting the security of Israel and the pro-Western Arab states offers the best path to promoting peace and stability in the Middle East. Few foreign policy objectives are more central given the region's chronic instability, strategic location, and central role in the world's long-term supply of energy."

"International conflict, sub-national and trans-national terrorism, confessional strife, and the fruits of decades of Soviet ambition and massive supplies of weapons have made the region chronically unstable. This instability threatens America's interest by jeopardising free nations and placing our access to the region at risk. Located at the confluence of three continents, the Middle East is linked to America's economic, security interests in Europe, Africa and Asia. Possessing 75 per cent of the free world's known petroleum reserves, the Middle East is vital in the long term to the economic prosperity of democratic regimes throughout the Western alliance."

America's strategic interests are clear, they are:

- The region should be stable, and its nations controlled by governments friendly to the U.S.;

- Israel must remain free, democratic, militarily secure, and economically strong;

- Freedom of the seas and free trade are American traditions. American and allied access to the sea lanes and petroleum resources of the region should be free from interference, whether from regional troublemakers, the Soviet Union, or terrorists.

We must pursue these interests energetically. We will continue to work with moderate Arab states willing to co-exist with Israel. This should be done in concert with allies where appropriate and practical. But we should be prepared to support our interests in the region alone if necessary to protect the security of the U.S.

U.S.-Israeli relations: The evolution of Israel's political status with the U.S. — from that of a threatened dependent in the 1970s to that of an ally and regional partner of the U.S. in the 1980s — is a crucial transformation. No longer is Israel simply a democratic nation which shares America's religious and immigrant origins, Israel shares our security burdens as well.

Israel is a strategic ally to the U.S. by virtue of its military capability and the values and political objectives it shares with the U.S. Israel buttresses the alliance in its most vulnerable area — the southern region of NATO and the Eastern Mediterranean. By establishing appropriate policies and institutions, the goal of strategic cooperation with Israel has been achieved. It will be sustained through continued security and economic assistance to Israel, and expansion of existing elements of strategic cooperation including joint exercises, pre-positioning of dual-use stockpiles (including combat equipment, spare parts, and ammunition), intelligence sharing and contingency planning. These measures will serve to strengthen American military power and influence in the Eastern Mediterranean.

A joint U.S.-Israeli effort now under way will produce one of the free world's first anti-tactical ballistic missiles in the 1990s, at a time when the proliferation of ballistic missiles is creating new dangers. Joint development efforts now under way for advanced conventional weapon systems will bear the fruit of lower cost, but more effective defence for our two nations in the 1990s. The improved institutions supporting defence cooperation will enable us to jointly strengthen our armed forces in the region, thereby contributing to regional stability. This could only be accomplished by a president who possesses the courage to stand alone as Israel has so often done, to defend freedom and democratic institutions in the region. We will continue to maintain Israel's qualitative advantage over any adversary or coalition of adversaries.

We will seek the assistance of the United Nations and other multilateral institutions where it will fit into a free nation's own diplomacy. But we will never allow the United Nations or any other multilateral institution to place Israel's or America's security interests at risk.

The domination of the United Nations by nations hostile to both the U.S. and Israel has diminished the usefulness of the organisation in the region. The U.S. will not allow the United Nations Security Council to become a forum for one-sided resolutions against our allies, including Israel.

The continued existence of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379 which equates Zionism with racism constitutes a fatal flaw in the ability of that organisation to serve a useful purpose in the region. We will seek repeal of this resolution. Failure to repeal that resolution will justify attenuation of our support of the United Nations to reflect its diminished effectiveness in international affairs. Moreover, the U.S. will withdraw from the United Nations if Israel is ever denied membership.

We oppose the creation of an independent Palestinian state; its establishment is inimical to the security interest of Israel, Jordan and the U.S. We will not support the creation of any Palestinian entity that could place Israel's security in jeopardy.

We are proud of the role



Bush: The American gentle prays at the Walling Wall in Jerusalem

America has played in the 1980s in encouraging the restructuring of Israel's economy which can lead it from one dominated by governmental institutions to one responding to free markets. The evolution of Israel's economy and the Free Trade Area agreement negotiated with Israel in 1985 will enable the Bush Presidency to bring Israel fully into the economic community of free nations for the long term benefit of both Israel and the U.S.

Peace process: The American role as an active, steadfast and fully engaged participant in the search for peace in the Middle East has rewarded the U.S. as well. By assisting both Israel and Egypt to negotiate directly and providing appropriate economic and military assistance subsequent to the Camp David Accord, the three countries have been able to limit the expansion of the influence of the Soviet Union in the region.

Ultimately, direct negotiations are the only viable means of securing peace between Israel and its neighbours. The U.S. cannot and will not impose a settlement, nor will be a party to any effort to do so through a multilateral entity. The U.S. will not support any role in the peace process for the PLO unless it recognises Israel's right to exist, accepts United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338, renounces terrorism and removes language from its charter demanding Israel's destruction.

The search for peace requires continuous creativity and innovation to adapt to the shifting political requirements in the region. Formulas which were useful points of departure in the past may not be suitable in the future. American diplomacy can remain flexible by building on the bedrock of the peace which now exists between Israel and Egypt.

In the long run, the need for both peace and security in the region are not mutually exclusive — they are mutually reinforcing. To achieve this end, the U.S. must remain powerfully engaged, and to assist in providing an environment where those most immediately concerned can negotiate directly and without fear or intimidation. President Reagan's September 1982 Middle East peace proposal provides a compelling basis for addressing the peace process as well as the Palestinian problem. We will build on this proposal to aid in the pursuit of peace in the Middle East.

The Gulf: Seventy-five per cent of the free world's proven oil reserves are in the Arabian peninsula and surrounding Gulf states. It is imperative for the economic well being of Western Europe, Japan and the U.S. that friendly hands remain on the spigot of Arabian peninsula oil and that the sea lanes and the Strait of Hormuz remain free and open. Our continued support of Saudi Arabia and other pro-Western states in the Gulf is an essential component of our policy. In support of these interests, the U.S. is correct in deploying a naval task force to join with other naval forces to keep the international waterways open during the Iran-Iraq war.

Syria and Libya: Syria and Libya remain hostile and violence-prone elements in a region that yearns for peace and stability. It is unlikely that they will change their policies with the present leadership. However, it remains in our interest to take advantage of a genuine change in policy that would allow these two nations to work toward participating in a meaningful way in the regional peace process — Arab News.

American witnesses testify to Israeli brutality against Arabs

By Dan Fisher
Los Angeles Times

HALHUL, Israeli-occupied West Bank — During the 10 days she lived with Majid Sharif and his family in this Palestinian village between Al-Khalil and Jerusalem, Washingtonian Alice Winkler talked with them about many things.

The "intifada" or Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, was the main topic, of course, but they also spoke about child-rearing and the changing role of women in this society. What they did not discuss — what Winkler, 25, did not tell her Arab hosts — was that she is Jewish.

She was not afraid, the editorial researcher for a Washington-based radio station stressed. She just felt she would get a truer picture of Palestinian attitudes towards Jews if she kept her own Jewish heritage secret.

Winkler discovered plenty of hostility toward the Israeli occupation, she said, but only one case of what she considered racism — a Muslim extremist who saw in the current situation a continuation of "the way the Jews have been for thousands of years."

That is part of the message that Winkler said in an interview she now intends to take back to America under a new and controversial "Eye-witness Israel" programme sponsored by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, which organised her trip.

She said the rest of the message boils down to this: "The conditions of occupation are abysmal. The intifada brought attention to this, though the conditions pre-date it. Occupation has forced Israel to become more and more repressive. And I don't think that a Palestinian state is as much of a threat to Israel as the occupation itself."

Winkler is one of dozens of American observers who have so far visited the occupied territories under the programme. It put them, according to a brochure promoting the effort, "in a unique position to gather accurate information and first-hand accounts about the daily abuses under Israel's military occupation, and to furnish that data to the American public, to the media, and to human rights organisations throughout the world."

Not so, according to Israeli officials, who say that the programme only helps American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee damage the country's image with biased and distorted accounts of the conflict.

"The Israelis have declared a Palestinian problem... and the Palestinian problem is that Israel wants Palestine without the Palestinians."

Based on a lengthy interview with Winkler and shorter talks with a dozen other members of the second delegation, it appears that the programme is neither the purely humanitarian effort suggested by the American-Arab Committee nor the venal propaganda play depicted by the Israelis.

By actually staying with families in the territories for up to two weeks, the American observers did enjoy a degree of exposure to everyday life there that is rare for an outsider. While they may spend considerable time several days a week on the West Bank and Gaza, even Western journal-

ists based here generally return to their Jerusalem or Tel Aviv homes each night. Rarely do they have nearly as sustained an exposure as do the "eye-witnesses."

The American-Arab Committee gave priority in choosing applicants to those affiliated with human rights organisations and "a demonstrated record of activism." It particularly invited professionals from medicine, journalism, law and religion to apply. Winkler's group included representatives from all those fields and more. They came from 14 different states.

The committee partially finances the "eye-witnesses," with participants charged \$500 each for a package including travel, accommodations and food. Each

"Israeli troops have injected Palestinians with an unidentified liquid, and... they have used a special, red coloured nerve gas... against the intifada."

observer also has at least one local sponsor, some of whom help defray the cost.

Three of the 16 delegates in Winkler's group were Jewish, only one was Arab-American. They ranged in age from 25 to 60. Most had no special knowledge of the Middle East, though several had previously been active in human rights causes, especially in Central America. And several said they were motivated to come out of a sense of "moral obligation."

All of those interviewed were sharply critical of Israeli policy and activity in the territories. "The Israelis have declared a Palestinian problem," said Kenneth Weare, who teaches theology at St. Mary of the Woods College in Indiana. "And the Palestinian problem is that Israel wants Palestine without Palestinians."

Rev. Carlos Jayne, a Methodist minister from Des Moines, Iowa, said he joined the delegation because he felt "there's a Palestinian side that hasn't been told, and the other side has been heavily weighted." Particularly because of the solid support for Israel among fundamentalist Christian congregations, Jayne said, he wants the "mainline churches... starting with my denomination, to begin addressing this issue more aggressively."

In their final statement, Winkler's group described conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as "characterised by systematic brutality and dehumanising practices against the Palestinians."

They listed a number of specific abuses, some of which — beatings, house demolitions, use of tear gas in enclosed areas, curfews, administrative detentions, and deportations — have been well documented. Others of the group's charges are familiar to journalists and other observers here, but are believed never to have been confirmed by any independent source. These include allegations that Israeli troops have injected Palestinians with an unidentified liquid, and that they have used a special, red-coloured nerve gas and dum-dum (hollow point) bullets against the intifada. Clashes aside, Winkler said, "in some ways, even more than the direct violence, the general level of harassment and humiliation (of Palestinians) is more difficult to take." She referred to random identity checks, forcible late-night house searches, insults and other well-documented practices used by the military in the territories.

Amal-Hizbollah tension persists

BEIRUT (AP) — The pro-Iranian Hizbollah accused the Syrian-backed Amal militia Sunday of assassinating a Hizbollah cleric in South Lebanon, heightening tension between the two rival Shi'ite factions.

A Hizbollah statement said Amal militiamen shot at Sheikh Ali Karim's car as he was driving Saturday in the southern village of Bir Al Salasel, 22 kilometres east of the southern port of Tyre.

The statement said Karim was killed instantly and his brother, sister and daughter — with him in the car — were seriously wounded in the head.

Hizbollah (Party of God) said the assassination "was calculated and premeditated." It did not elaborate. The statement accused Amal of "arresting and curbing the freedom of Hizbollah members" in South Lebanon.

Amal wrested control of South Lebanon from Hizbollah in a four-day showdown last April that left more than 60 people killed and 150 wounded.

Hizbollah retaliated by driving Amal out of South Beirut's slums in a three-week bloodbath in May. About 300 people were killed and 1,000 wounded before Syrians sent troops into the suburbs to quell the fighting.

Saturday's incident came a day after a brief shootout between the two rivals in South Beirut's Hay Al Sellom slum over the sponsorship of a religious celebration in South Beirut.

Amal accused Hizbollah of provoking the clash to prevent "the believers from taking part in the Ashoura ritual" sponsored by the party.

The 10-day Ashoura celebrations started Friday evening.

59 detained after 'Ain Shams clashes

CAIRO (AP) — State security authorities ordered Sunday the detention of 59 people involved in clashes with police forces two days ago outside a mosque in a Cairo working-class district. Interior Ministry officials said.

An Interior Ministry official, demanding anonymity under operational rules, said the state security prosecutor general ordered a 15-day detention of 59 people under investigation.

He said a woman died Sunday morning of injuries sustained in a security mop-up operation following clashes between Muslim extremists and police Friday and Saturday. He said two more persons had died earlier.

Police forces clashed with Muslim extremists Friday night outside a mosque in the northeastern suburb of 'Ain Shams. The forces, acting on a tip, had surrounded the mosque to detain a number of extremist suspects who were meeting inside after evening prayers.

Nineteen people were wounded in the battle that ensued with stone-throwing, chain-wielding Muslim extremists. Police forces used teargas and sticks, according to a senior police official. The crowded district is inhabited mostly by workers.

The official said more than 120 extremists also hurled flaming objects at police, setting a police van ablaze.

The official said more than 70 extremists were arrested in Friday night's clash.

On Saturday, police fired birdshot as they rounded up suspected extremists in 'Ain Shams who may have hidden in houses there the night before.

Local reports said 27 people were arrested.

Witnesses and hospital sources, who refused to be identified, said one civilian was killed and several were wounded in the security operation that came the day after the mosque clash. One of the wounded was a boy, they said.

PLO voices satisfaction with Jordan's step

(Continued from page 1)

"A PLO delegation led by Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas and comprising Executive Committee members Abdullah Hourani, Mohammad Milhem and Abdul Razak Al Yahya and Hani Al Hassan visited the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Aug. 11-14, 1988, to hold discussions with the Jordanian government on the Palestinian situation in the wake of Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the occupied West Bank.

"During the visit, the Palestinian delegation was received by His Majesty King Hussein. The delegation held two rounds of meetings with a Jordanian delegation headed by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. In light of the explanations presented by His Majesty the King and the Jordanian government of the motivations, considerations and goals of the Jordanian decision and answers given to the Palestinian delegation's inquiries on the measures resulting from the Jordanian decision, the Palestinian delegation expressed its full satisfaction with this decision and with all the resulting measures. It also expressed conviction that the decision serves the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's aspirations to demonstrate their national identity on their land in the same way as it bolsters the (ongoing Palestinian) uprising (in the occupied territories) and confirms the role of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in endeavours to establish an independent Palestinian state on the Palestinian national soil.

"The Palestinian delegation expressed total conviction that the Jordanian position which considers all its full responsibilities as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Among the various options under consideration by the PLO is a government-in-exile or a provisional government.

PLO delegation member Hourani told a press conference late Sunday that the meeting also reached agreement that Jordan would continue to provide some services to the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank despite the Kingdom's move to give the responsibilities to the PLO.

Hourani said Jordan had agreed to continue day-to-day services and facilities for the West Bank's 550,000 residents, at least for the moment.

"Frankly, we feel great relief from the fact that daily life requirements were not negatively affected by Amman's decision to break legal, administrative and political ties with the West Bank," he told reporters.

Hourani said Jordan had promised to keep the bridges across the River Jordan open and to continue issuing passports to West Bankers, although they would be merely travel documents and would not entitle the holders to Jordanian citizenship.

Jordan also said it would continue to give certificates of origin for exports from the West Bank, would continue to supervise education there and would go on issuing birth, death and marriage certificates to its people, he said.

Hourani described Jordan's pledge to continue these services as "open-ended."

The separate PLO statement issued Sunday night said "both sides came to agreement that Jordan will provide all facilities and measures which serve the interests and the life of our people in the occupied territories."

In its statement, the PLO said Jordan made clear that those of Palestinian origin "have full rights of citizenship and full duties," in Jordan.

It said they would retain "their rights in Palestine... including the right to repatriation and self-determination."



HAVOC IN SUDAN: Wrecked houses are part of the havoc wrought by floodwaters in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum. At least 83,000 homes have been destroyed and over 1.5 million have been left homeless.

Assad, Velayati discuss ceasefire

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad held late-night talks on the Gulf war, the Syrian News Agency (SANA) said Sunday.

It said Velayati, who arrived in Damascus on an official visit Saturday, met Assad and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaf for talks on the U.N.-sponsored ceasefire in the Gulf and bilateral relations.

The agency said Velayati delivered a letter from Iranian President Ali Khamenei, but did not reveal its contents.

The Syrian president also sent a letter to his Iranian counterpart.

Iraq Saturday urged Arab countries to stop financial aid for Syria and called for its expulsion from the Arab League.

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, in an

article in the ruling Baath Party paper Al Thawra, said all Arab leaders and governments should boycott the Syrian government and end all dealings with it.

Ramadan, who is also member of the ruling Revolutionary Command Council, cited Syria's policy in Lebanon, attacks on Palestinian camps in Beirut and its alliance with Iran in the Gulf war.

It was the strongest remark made by any Iraqi official against the Syrian government since Iraq and Iran accepted the U.N.-sponsored ceasefire in the Gulf war beginning Aug. 20.

In Tehran, Iranian war supreme Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told a visiting Omani minister that the Gulf war would have ended sooner if Muslim countries had put pressure on Iraq.

The Iranian national news agency IRNA said Rafsanjani told Omani's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ibn Alawi

Saturday:

IRNA also quoted Rafsanjani as saying some Gulf states adopted "unjust" stands in the eight-year-long war. But he added that Oman's stand was just.

Oman, lying just across the Strait of Hormuz from Iran, maintained good relations with both sides during the past eight years.

There has been a marked improvement in relations between

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Iran 'will spare no effort' to free British hostages

TEHRAN (AP) — The newspaper Tehran Times said in an editorial Sunday that Iran would work to release British hostages held in Lebanon, particularly Anglican church envoy Terry Waite.

"Undoubtedly the Islamic Republic of Iran will spare no effort to press ahead with the release of British hostages, particularly Terry Waite," the government-run newspaper said.

But it made it clear that the effort was linked with attempts to find Iranians believed held in Lebanon.

"Yet what Iran legitimately expects of Britain is to provide Iran with all the information possible about the fate of four Iranian hostages" believed held by rightist militia "under the influence of Britain," the English-language paper said.

The editorial coincides with the visit of British diplomat David Reddaway to the Iranian capital, as well as with talks in Britain between Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie and an envoy from the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Reddaway said Saturday that he had a "useful" first meeting with Foreign Ministry officials, but refused to elaborate.

Before leaving London Friday Reddaway said he would speak with officials about the 18 foreigners missing and believed held hostage by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon, including Waite and two other Britons.

There has been a marked improvement in relations between

Britain and Iran in the past few weeks. Britain withdrew all its diplomats, who worked out of the Swedish embassy in Tehran, and all but broke diplomatic relations last summer. One Iranian diplomat remains in London.

According to Britain's Observer newspaper Iranian sources say British hostages held in Lebanon could be freed within weeks.

An early edition of the Sunday paper quoted what it described as an Iranian source close to the government as saying that the three British hostages could see freedom soon.

"Things are going smoothly and the hostages should be back within weeks," the source was quoted as saying.

A spokesman for Britain's Foreign Office was unable to confirm the report.

The Tehran Times editorial said that chances for improved relations are good.

"All developments augur well for the restoration of London-Tehran relations at a cordial level," it said, noting the meeting between Runcie and the official from the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Iran has been making conciliatory statements about relations with Western nations since it announced July 18 it was accepting a United Nations call for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

The Tehran Times editorial said as "a sign of further good will" Iran hopes that when Britain takes over the chairmanship of the U.N. Security Council, the council would take up Iranian proposals "without prejudice."

try, Mohammad Reza Said Mohammadi.

The church and the Iranian embassy in London refused to comment Friday's talks between John Lytle, the archbishop's top adviser, and Mohammadi. It was the third meeting about the British hostages in Lebanon.

In July, an Anglican bishop went to Lebanon to initiate inquiries about the fate of four Iranians who were believed kidnapped by rightists in Lebanon. Iran has repeatedly sought information on the four.

Iran's charge d'affaires in Britain, Mohammad Basti, said in a radio interview Friday that "there was an understanding that if the archbishop could help us... we would be ready to trace the hostages in that part of the world."

Pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon are believed holding 18 foreigners hostage.

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Modern Educational School holds meeting on 88/89 scholastic year

AMMAN — The Modern Educational School administration, members of staff, parents, a number of specialists in the field of education, local and foreign experts, some U.S. embassy members, and a number of citizens Saturday attended a meeting held at the Marriott Hotel.

After school founder Taysir Zamil reviewed the school's plans for the next year, UNRWA expert Dr. Don Shatti explained goals and facilitating the suitable environment for teaching.

Head of the Private Education Department at the Ministry of Education Ali Al Shomali also addressed the gathering.

The meeting falls within the



UNRWA expert Dr. Don Shatti addresses a meeting of the Modern Educational School administration, staff members, parents, U.S. embassy staff and educational experts Saturday.

framework of the school administration's desire to extend bridges of cooperation and confidence between the school and parents following the example of the PTA.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 18, at 5 p.m. at the school premises near the Seventh Circle to review further constructive proposals.

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Economist estimates underground Soviet economy at \$140b a year

MOSCOW (AP) — A shadow economy that supplies everything the official one can't earn up to 90 billion roubles (\$140 billion) a year and probably has made thousands of Soviets millionaires, a report has said recently.

Economist T.I. Koryagin told the labour newspaper Trud that the underground economy would continue to grow until roubles earned by average people become more than "paper that gives you the right to stand in line and be humiliated."

Many Soviets gladly pay more on the side for scarce goods or to have a repairman do better, faster work. Extra money, in turn, gives those who earn it a chance to pay more than state-set prices to others for the goods and services they want.

Mikhail S. Gorbachev's moves to legalise cooperatives and some individual labour have brought some people out of the shadows and into the official economy where they pay taxes, but many more remain outside, Koryagin said.

Services provided on the side, or "na levo," in Russian, accounts for about 14 billion-16 billion roubles (\$22-\$24 billion) a year, or about one quarter of the entire amount Soviets pay annually, she said.

Fifteen or 20 years ago, the

value of underground services was about 3 billion-5 billion roubles (\$4.8 billion-\$8 billion).

Koryagin said most underground payments are to workers for better housing and car repair, tailoring, and better attention at weddings and funerals. But Soviets also pay billions of roubles to rent private houses for their vacations and billions more for better medicines and attention care in the free but indifferent clinics and hospitals.

Together with the underground trade in food and other goods, Koryagin estimated that the shadow economy accounts for 70 billion-90 billion roubles (\$110-\$145 billion) a year. In comparison, the entire Soviet state budget for this fiscal year is about

480 billion roubles (\$760 billion).

"Our shadow economy is the result of the sharp deficit in the market. It fills the gap between the large demand and limited state supply," she said.

Koryagin disagreed with some Soviets who see the underground economy as merely instituting one of the main aims of Gorbachev's reforms — paying more to people who work better.

"Underground businessmen pull into their affairs the bureaucracy and the apparatus, which increases the growth of corruption — in order to live in the existing system it's necessary to bribe people who don't do anything themselves but who have the final yes, or no," she said.

There are a few hundred legal millionaires, mostly writers and

artists, but probably thousands more in the shadow economy, Koryagin said.

"There are among them people who don't have a rouble in cash. Their money is constantly turning over in order to bring them an income," she said.

The underground economy will continue to exist until the official economy can provide the goods and services people want, she said.

That means the economy must in the future be managed by the laws of the market rather than bureaucrats, she said.

"That means we need directives that would return land to farmers, and factories to the workers — to make the people the all-powerful masters of the country," she wrote.

Society looks into opening export outlays

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Society for the Production and Marketing of Eggs (JSPME) held a meeting at the Professional Association Complex in Amman to discuss speedy measures to deal with the question of marketing an estimated surplus of 15 million eggs.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic newspaper said that the society president Suleiman Irteimeh spoke at the meeting, giving details about the process of production and marketing of table eggs and said that the society was able to market nearly 95 million table eggs abroad in 1987 and to export 3.25 million others in the first quarter of 1988.

Irteimeh said that consumption of eggs in the Kingdom dropped in the month of Ramadan by at least 35 per cent, which caused the accumulation of surplus quantities in the society's warehouses.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday rates					
Local currency rates in Jds					
Belgian franc (for 10)	94.2/	95.1	Saudi riyal	101.0/	102.0/
Dutch guilder	174.4/	176.1	Syrian lira (for JD 1)	95.0/	97.0/
French franc	38.1/	38.7	Lebanese lira (for JD 1)	570.0/	900.0/
Italian lira (for 100)	26.6/	26.9	Iraqi dinar	460.0/	480.0/
Japanese yen (for 100)	279.2/	282.0	Kuwaiti dinar	1220.0/	1340.0/
Swedish crown	235.6/	238.0	Egyptian pound	160.0/	165.0/
Swiss franc	235.6/	238.0	Omani rial	102.0/	103.5/
U.K. sterling pound	636.7/	643.1	UAE dirham	980.0/	990.0/
U.S. dollar	371.1/	375.1	Bahraini dinar	1000.0/	1010.0/

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Corporation	721194	Association	680663

Dutch marine construction firms expect battle for big Gulf orders

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch salvage, dredging and construction companies believe an end to the Iran-Iraq war will mean huge new orders for their services, but they are braced for stiff international competition.

"There is about 10 years worth of work there for a company in our business," said Daan Kaakebeen, a spokesman for salvage and offshore maintenance firm Smit Internationale N.V.

But Smit, partly owned by shipper Koninklijke Nedlloyd Groep N.V., expects its lucrative business of repairing ships and oil

rigs in trouble to dwindle. Peace meant turnover would fall some five per cent in 1988, Kaakebeen said. But, he added: "We expect to compensate (for) the drop in turnover with reconstruction work."

Dutch firms insisted they were adopting a cautious approach to the situation as a lasting peace was still uncertain. There was no sign yet of any reconstruction priorities or of how much money would be available, they said.

A lasting peace could mean billions of dollars and years of work to repair ports and off-shore in-

dustries, dredge waterways and rebuild infrastructure, spokesman Frank Luijendijk of construction firm and dredger Hollandsche Beton Groep N.V. (HBG) said.

"There is a tremendous amount of work there," Luijendijk said. Arab countries have put aside an estimated \$50 billion to fund reconstruction when the Gulf war is over.

"But that is probably not enough," he said.

And, although the Dutch hoped their reputation as world leaders in water-related engineering work would help get contracts, they were braced for a cut-throat tendering battle.

With the construction industry only slowly recovering from a worldwide slump, players from all parts of the world will tender extremely competitive bids, squeezing margins, industry analysts said.

Smit's Kaakebeen hoped the United Nations would decide to play a steering role in reconstruction in the Gulf, just as it did in reopening the Suez Canal after

the 1956 Israeli-Arab war. Smit Internationale received an order from the state-owned Iranian Oil Co. two weeks ago to lay a pipeline near Bandar-Tahari, Kaakebeen said.

At privately owned salvage and off-shore firm Wijsmuller Holding B.V. in IJmuiden, spokesman Erik Van Oosten said: "Work will shift back from first aid to collisions, off-shore building and maintenance as well as clearing wrecks."

In the construction business, Dutch firms would meet keenly competitive Korean, Taiwanese, Italian, Greek and Lebanese competitors. HBG's Luijendijk said.

"There is a major potential for large-scale construction... the whole world will want a share of it," a spokesman for Amsterdam-based building firm Ballast-Nedam Groep N.V., a unit of British Aerospace Plc., said.

Luijendijk said: "Profit margins have to cover the risks adequately. We can afford to be selective."

Belgium to cut budget deficit

BRUSSELS (AP) — The centre-left government reached an agreement in principle to further reduce the budget deficit to seven per cent of gross national product (GNP) next year, officials said Sunday.

Under the accord, the 1989 budget deficit should not exceed 403 billion francs (\$10.1 billion), forcing the government to issue new austerity measures totalling 66 billion francs (\$1.65 billion).

No details of the new budgetary measures will be available until Prime Minister Wilfried Martens has informed King Baudouin on the final text Monday.

Martens, who has been seeking to slash the deficit from 13 per cent of GNP to seven per cent since 1982, has led a centre-right coalition before leading the current coalition of Socialists and Christian Democrats — both split in Dutch and French-speaking parties — and a Dutch-speaking autonomy party since the spring.

Earlier austerity measures have hit most sectors of society, including medical and social care, public transport, pensions, education and public investment.

Fund to be launched in U.S. to help weak Turkey stocks

ISTANBUL (R) — Istanbul's stock market, shunned by local investors who put their faith in gold and property after a crash last year, is looking overseas for a multi-million dollar lifeline.

Stock exchange officials said a \$60 million "Turkey fund" would soon come to the rescue of the market, a battered flagship of financial reform under Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

"If I had a big amount of money to invest in securities in the Turkish market, I would invest (now)," Muharrem Karli, president of the stock exchange, told Reuters.

Senior treasury officials said they would launch the fund, a managed portfolio of investments in Turkish companies, on the American market as soon as possible.

The launch, following a July 20 decree opening Turkish stocks to foreign mutual funds, may also help the country's troubled privatisation programme.

Prices and turnover on the exchange are languishing at about a half to a third of levels before a crash a year ago discouraged ordinary investors.

"The Turkey fund will bring some liveliness to the exchange, but it can only absorb part of that money... some government shareholdings will be transferred to it," Mehmet Tekbas, chairman of the Capital Markets Board, told Reuters.

Brokers said this would amount to back-door privatisation, a key policy platform undermined by the stock exchange's woes.

Shares in a first sale of a stake in Teletas A.S. sold well at 5,000 lira in March but now trade at 2,900 lira. The sale of five cement factories in September is no longer certain.

But brokers said managers of foreign mutual funds were attracted to Turkey despite its volatile economy.

"Demand is buoyant. Now the decree is a reality, fund managers are going to ask boards to put Turkey on their list," said Niko Maksimiyades, managing director of Turkinvest.

But Tekbas said officials would proceed cautiously.

Just one million dollars could swamp the exchange, where daily turnover now averages 300 million lira (\$200,000) — one tenth of turnover of the London stock market.

The index of the 50-share senior market has fluctuated in the 450/550 range since April, up from a base of 100 in January 1986 but down from a speculative high of 1,332 a year ago.

A small amount invested from abroad will be sufficient to break the vicious circle," Karli said.

"Major Turkish companies are well-run and make good profits," Karli added. "Shares are very undervalued. Price/earnings ratios average seven or eight."

Reasons for a lack of domestic interest in stock trading also include a 75 per cent inflation rate, monetary austerity since February and an aversion to "paper" savings.

Mergers and acquisitions bypass the exchange, where only 20 to 25 per cent of companies' shares are usually traded.

Turkey's 53 million people are said to be a virgin market for securities, but half of the population lives on the land. Gold and property are their principal investments.

The exchange, which has roots in the late 19th century Ottoman Empire, was drastically reformed 2½ years ago but is suffering growing pains.

Despite a new price change limit of 10 points a day, sudden speculative rises and falls in stocks still occur, prompting one broker to refer to it as "a bit of a casino."

Research department manager Yilmaz Piroglu said it was even difficult to get information from companies on their basic results.

The 50 senior companies out of nearly 300 listed on the exchange will have to be independently audited for the first time this year, but auditing guidelines are not yet set.

Managers of the "Turkey fund" will try to increase its value by buying shares of successful companies and selling those of companies with poorer prospects.

The fund is being established with the support of the International Finance Corporation. Top U.S. banks and local banks have been approached to manage it but no decisions have yet been taken.

Officials say they hope it will take its place alongside a new breed of U.S.-listed country funds like the India fund, the Korea fund and the Thai fund. "The Istanbul stock exchange is preparing itself to form the Middle East link of the global belt of stock exchanges," Karli wrote in the exchange's 1988 half-year report.

But Karli said some foreign fund managers visiting him in the exchange's bright new building beside the Bosphorus were still concerned about Turkish shortcomings like inflation.

"Everyone likes the view," he said, gesturing to ferries and harbour boats plying busily across Istanbul's Golden Horn waterway. "Not everybody likes the stock exchange."

VILLA FOR SALE

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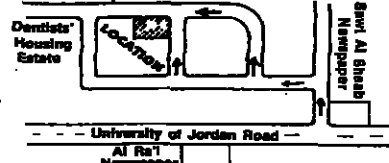
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Cinema

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Cinema

NIJOUN CINEMA «Formerly Opera»

Tel: 675571

Naked Vengeance
Shows at 3:30 and 6:30 and 8
2-A Variety
Artistic Show
and Dancing
Time: 10:00

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

SPRING
BREAK

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

RATES
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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jordan takes part in karate tourney
AMMAN (Peters) — A Jordanian team is taking part in the 14th Arab Karate Tournament which is being held in Baghdad. The Jordanian team, led by Osama Ammar, was said to have a good chance to test their skills against participants from Arab countries. The tournament is held in preparation for an international championship to be held in Cairo in October.

Kenya set Africa records
NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenyan athletes set two new Africa records Saturday in men's 200 metres during two days of Olympic trials to select 31 track and field competitors. Kennedy Ondiek, 22, posted 20.3 seconds to break the previous Africa men's 200 metre record of 20.35 seconds set in May 1986 by Nigeria's Chidi Imo. Francisca Chepkurui, 25, posted a 1:58.1 in women's 800 metres, shattering the 1:59.94 record set August 1980 by another Kenyan, Mary Chemweno. Elkan Nyaingau and Simeon Kipkemboi, also broke the Africa record in men's 200 metres, finishing in 20.6 seconds. Officials said four women and 27 men qualified to represent Kenya in track and field at the summer Olympics. John Ngugi, three-time winner of the World Cross Country Championships, qualified in men's 5,000 metres, finishing in 13:44.5.

Moon bags WBA title
SEOUL (R) — South Korean Moon Sung-Kil won the World Boxing Association (WBA) bantamweight title Sunday with a unanimous points decision over champion Khaokor Galaxy of Thailand. The fight was stopped by Japanese referee Ken Morita midway through the sixth round of the scheduled 12-round fight when Moon suffered a bad cut over his right eye caused by an accidental butting. Based on points scored in the previous rounds, the referee declared Moon winner of the fight. Galaxy, 28, was making his first defence of the title which he wrested from Wilfredo Vasquez of Puerto Rico in Bangkok last May. Moon, 24, a hard-punching former world amateur bantamweight champion, won the WBA crown in only his seventh professional outing. He had won all his previous six fights by knockout.

Dittmar wins squash championship
BRISBANE, Australia (R) — South Australian Chris Dittmar Saturday evening finally won the Australian Open squash title which has eluded him for years. He has been in devastating form

throughout the championships played at the Queen Elizabeth II squash stadium in Brisbane, and in the final Queenslanders Rodney Martin was unable to counter his skill and determination. The scoreline was 9-1, 9-4, 9-3 and Dittmar never looked in danger of losing. Vicki Cardwell, a seasoned campaigner from Victoria, beat Michelle Martin to regain the women's title she last won in 1984. Both junior finals produced fairly predictable results, with Amanda Hopps of western Australia defeating Carol Owens of Victoria and Mark Carlyon from Queensland beating Shaun Moxham also of Queensland.

Canada wins 4x100m relay
CESENATICO, Italy (R) — World record holder Ben Johnson helped Canada to a comfortable win over Italy in the 4x100 metres relay at a two-nation athletics meeting here Saturday. The 26-year-old sprinter, who returned to competition last weekend after a three-month break due to a hamstring injury, powered down the final stretch of the circuit to finish for Canada in 38.58 seconds. Canada's Mike McCoy, who earlier won the 110 metres hurdles in 13.32 seconds, ran the first leg, passing the baton to Alistair Mahorne, with Canada's second string sprinter Desai Williams on the third stretch. Italy's relay team, Maurizio Madonia, Alessandro Fiora, Pierfrancesco Pavoni and Stefano Tili, finished one-tenth of a second behind. Williams won the 100 metres sprint in 10.30 seconds, ahead of Michele Lazzerara of Italy who clocked 10.40.

Two died in New York races
NEW YORK (AP) — Two young men died in the past five weeks during company running races in sweltering heat, authorities said. Fred Lebow, head of the New York road runners club, said the men, age 23 and 24, were non-runners who competed in company-sponsored 3.5-mile (5.6-kilometre) races without adequate preparation. Organisers acknowledged that participants in the second race were not told that someone had died three weeks earlier in the first race. The races in Central Park, which drew thousands of competitors, were sponsored by the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company as part of its corporate challenge series. Anthony Mezzina, 24, of North Bergenfield, New Jersey, an employee of a Manhattan brokerage firm, collapsed during the race July 14 and died a day later. David Reynolds, 23, of Bergenfield, New Jersey, a technical writer, collapsed shortly after completing the Aug. 4 race. He died three days later. The deaths, in temperatures over 80 degrees (over 26 Celsius), were disclosed Friday by New York Newsday.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

Agencies

Results of European first division, and Scottish matches played Saturday

Belgium			
FC Liege	3	Charleroi	0
Club Bruges	2	Racing Mechelen	0
St. Truiden	3	Molenbeek	0
Gent	0	Anderlecht	3
Mechelen	4	Cercle Bruges	0
Antwerp	2	Beveren	2
Lierse	1	Kortrijk	1

Matches to be played on Sunday: Waregem vs Standard Liege, Lokeren vs Beerschot.

East Germany			
Karl-Marx-Stadt	1	Magdeburg	0
Dynamo Dresden	2	Rot-Weiss Erfurt	0
Stahl Brandenburg	2	Union Berlin	1
Sachsenring Zwickau	1	Wismut Aue	2
Dynamo Berlin	2	Chemie Halle	2
Lokomotive Leipzig	0	Hansa Rostock	1
Energie Cottbus	2	Carl Zeiss Jena	1

France			
Nice	1	Laval	0
Strasbourg	4	Lens	0
Paris S-G	3	Caen	0
Toulon	1	Monaco	0
Auxerre	0	Cannes	0
Lille	0	Nantes	1
Toulouse	2	Metz	1
Sochaux	1	Bordeaux	1
Montpellier	0	Matra Racing	0

Poland			
Olimpia Poznan	0	Gomik Walbrzych	2
Wisla Krakow	0	GKS Jastrzebie	0
Widzew Lodz	0	GKS Katowice	1
Gomik Zabrze	8	Szombierki Bytom	3
Ruch Chorzow	1	LKS Lodz	0
Legia Warszawa	0	Slask Wroclaw	0
Pogon Szczecin	1	Jagiellonia Bialystok	0
Stal Mielec	1	Lech Poznan	0

Scotland			
Celtic	1	Hearis	0
Dundee	1	Aberdeen	1
Hamilton	0	Rangers	2
Hibernian	1	Motherwell	0
St. Mirren	0	Dundee United	1

Lendl faces Curren in Canadian Open final

TORONTO (R) — Ivan Lendl overcame wily veteran Jimmy Connors, and Kevin Curren ended the upset-run of Australian Mark Woodforde in the semifinals of the Canadian Open Tennis Championships Saturday.

Lendl's blistering serve was the difference in a 6-4, 6-4 victory over the fourth-seeded Connors who was running down balls like a teenager despite the sweltering heat that reached 43 degrees Celsius on court.

The unseeded Woodforde, who had ousted Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg and John McEnroe on his way to the semifinals, fell to the 14th-seeded Curren 6-4, 6-2.

Lendl, the number one player in the world, and Curren will play for a first-prize cheque of \$119,700 Sunday.

Connors dipped into his deep bag of tricks and tried some net-rushing to fluster the Czechoslovak in the first set as he went to the net 35 times and came away with 24 winners.

But Lendl, who fired in eight aces, scored breaks in the seventh game of both sets to edge the 35-year-old Connors.

"I think I played well under the conditions," said Lendl, who played a late match Friday.

"I only had four hours sleep and couldn't wind down because of the extreme heat. When it's so hot, you just have to pace yourself and leave something for the second set."

Connors, who will turn 36 on Sept. 2, went all out but conceded his best matches against Lendl were behind him.

"They don't like losing to an old guy like me and I don't like losing to younger guys," said Connors.

record of 160 straight weeks at the top.

Curren has played Lendl seven times, with Lendl leading the series, 5-2.

"It's a match I look forward to. If I serve well and come in on him I feel I can beat him," the South African born Curren said of his upcoming match with Lendl.

"I'm a little unpredictable. That unnerves him. But these (hardcourts) are his best surface and he's the world's best player so I'll have to get out of the gate early. But I've been around long enough not to be intimidated by him."

Woodforde said he was disappointed with his play and regretted missing another chance to play Lendl, against whom he held a match point at Wimbledon.

"I'm disappointed I didn't put up a better show. I was very lacklustre on the court. I had no Australian guts," said Woodforde.

Evert, Sabatini reach Los Angeles tennis final

LOS ANGELES (R) — Top-seeded Chris Evert beat eighth-seeded Stephanie Rehe 6-3, 6-3 Saturday night to advance to the final of the \$300,000 Los Angeles women's tennis tournament.

She will meet third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, who has beaten her four times in 14 meetings.

Evert, third in the world, departed slightly from her traditional baseline strategy by using her first serve to force shorter rallies and to make fellow American Rehe rush her shots on the hard courts.

Playing her first tournament since her July 30 wedding to skier Andy Mill, she took a 3-0 lead in the first set, but the 25th-ranked Rehe rallied to 3-3 before Evert swept back.

Evert said she had expected a tough match.

"Stephanie plays the same type of game I do, and I think (the difference was) I served well, got a lot of good first serves in and kept the pressure on her. I'm not surprised that the match was more competitive than my first three," said Evert.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ K103 ♣ 8 ♦ AQJ62 ♠ AJ3

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ 2 ♠* Pass Pass

*preemptive

What action do you take?

Q.2—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ Q56 ♣ 8 ♦ AK9872 ♠ AQ9

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ 2 ♠* Pass Pass

*preemptive

What action do you take?

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ K2 ♣ 8 ♦ AKQJ43 ♠ AJ2

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ 2 ♠* Pass Pass

*preemptive

What action do you take?

Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ Q10 ♣ AK954 ♠ 8 ♦ Q1094

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ 2 ♠* Pass Pass

*preemptive

What action do you take?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ AQ9873 ♣ 85 ♦ 62 ♠ Q65

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ AQ52 ♣ K74 ♠ J87 ♠ J52

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass

2 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Milan beats Bayern Munich 1-0

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Marco van Basten, whose goals powered The Netherlands to victory in the European Soccer Championships, stunned English fans with a last-minute miss Saturday as his AC Milan side edged Bayern Munich 1-0 in the Wembley International Exhibition Tournament.

Van Basten, who top-scored in the European Championships with five goals, dribbled past two defenders and drew the Bayern keeper off his line before ballooning the ball over the top from five metres (16 feet).

Milan, the Italian champion, owed its victory to a first half goal by Paulo Virdis, who was playing because of a knee injury to Dutch star Ruud Gullit.

Earlier, in the opening game of the four-team competition, Brian Marwood scored twice as Arsenal took a 4-0 victory over north London rival Tottenham Hotspur. The four teams will again be in action Sunday with Milan playing Arsenal.

Despite the absence of Gullit and injured Italian internationals, Paolo Maldini and Carlo Ancelotti, Milan played some polished

soccer, weaving pretty patterns across the wide open spaces of the Wembley field.

Virdis struck for the Italians in the 32nd minute. Alberigo Evani slotted a short pass into the Bayern area and Virdis scored with a first time shot on the turn from 12 metres (39 feet).

Little was seen of the Bayern attack and Swedish international Johnny Ekstrom was taken off midway through the second half after failing to trouble a Milan rearguard superbly organised by experienced sweeper Franco Baresi.

Harforth takes Karlsruhe to top

BONN (R) — Michael Harforth scored twice Saturday to carry Karlsruhe to a 3-1 win over the Stuttgart Kickers and into first place in the West German soccer first division.

Defending champions Werder Bremen's beat UEFA Cup holders Bayer Leverkusen 3-1 to move into second place.

Harforth scored in the 34th and

88th minutes with midfielder Michael Spies adding the third goal in the 56th minute. Stuttgart's only reply was a penalty by Bernd Grabosch in the 17th minute.

"We were very nervous at first but we loosened up after the first goal. We mounted great counter-attacks after Stuttgart blew opportunities," Karlsruhe trainer


Winfried Schaefer said.

Werder Bremen owed their victory to striker Karlheinz Riedle, who scored twice in three minutes in the second half.

"We played with the highest concentration and it was important not to give up a goal in the early going," Werder Bremen trainer Otto Rehagel said.

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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Wrapping the car in Silly Putty means fewer dented fenders!"

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by Avery P. Brownfield

ACROSS

1 Certain golf tournament

6 Antonio

9 Grottoes

14 Weight

15 Stevedore org.

16 Moldings

17 Cotton fabric

18 Serbian city

19 Pertinent

20 "Let — short" (Bible)

23 Amerind

24 Envision

25 But

26 Roman

27 Metal

28 "— My Heart In..."

30 Gangs

33 Formal attire in London

37 Places

38 Shopping complex

39 Flying prefix

40 Tenn. city

42 Sit up

43 Position

44 Bus. abbr.

45 Wages

47 Tyrants

50 Toll of bills

53 No —, ands or but

54 Tenn. city

56 LuPone or Page

58 Headfish

59 More likely

60 Close a port in a way

61 62

62 Chatter

63 Ariz. city

64 Epoch

65 Church council

DOWN

1 Malls

2 Ruffles

3 Ham —

4 Galathea's love

5 Tenn. city

6 Power

7 S. Toklas

8 Tenn. city

9 Enveloped

10 A Gardner

11 — State (Tenn.)

12 Certain type

13 — with (supported)

21 Age

22 Ringers

27 In State

29 Fr. money

30 Off. worker

31 City of TV

32 Biophore of sorts

33 US national

34 Everything

35 — Lanka

36 Soak in

38 Ind. tower

41 Serum

42 Opens

44 A Gardner

45 Songbird

46 — in the "Crowd"

48 Step

49 Central hall

50 Wagnerian god

51 "From —

52 Ventured

55 "Grand Ole —"

57 Hint

Peanuts

HERE'S A LIST OF ALL THE BEST AND THE WORST JOBS

I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS...

ROCKS AREN'T EVEN ON THE LIST..

Mutt'n' Jeff

SO YOU WOULD LIKE TO MARRY MY DAUGHTER? IF I HAD ONE -- WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

I'M IN THE ADVERTISING BUSINESS. THIS IS SOME OF MY WORK --

GET OUT OF HERE! EVERYTHING YOU HAVE TO DO IS TO GET OUT OF HERE!

HERE'S ONE I WROTE FOR DRUG STORES!

TRY OUR COUGH MEDICINE! YOU'LL NEVER GET ANY BETTER!

HOLMES PLEASE ESCORT THIS GENTLEMAN TO THE DOOR!

I BLUMPED INTO EDNA WESTERDAAY MUM. SHE INVITED ME HOME FOR A COFFEE

I'D HAVE THROWN IT IN HER FACE, FLO

FORGIVE AN' FORGET ME, MUM

I'D NEVER FORGIVE HER, FLO

SHE ONCE BOASTED SHE WAS GOING TO SENTENCE ME AWAY FROM FLO -- THEN CHANGED HER MIND



Students in Kwangju, South Korea, having their hair shaved at a rally calling for the Olympic games to be jointly hosted by Seoul and Pyongyang and for the reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Zia presses anti-party drive

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq favours banning political parties from the Pakistani Parliament, a newspaper Sunday quoted him as saying.

The military leader, who has already banned parties from contesting the national elections Nov. 16, said the non-party system should be pushed to its logical conclusion, the Lahore daily The Nation said.

Zia said he foresaw a system whereby parliamentary committees played a major role and he cited Turkey and Sri Lanka as examples.

He did not spell out his ideas in detail, but his latest suggestion apparently contradicts previous assertions that deputies elected in

November would be free to form whatever groupings they wanted in the new parliament.

Benazir Bhutto and other opposition leaders have denounced the holding of non-party elections as a bid by the army chief to maintain his 11-year-old grip on power. Most opposition parties have joined together in an alliance to try to force Zia out of office.

The paper quoted Zia as saying in the interview, published on Pakistan's independence day, that there was no possibility of reimposing martial law. He seized power in a coup in 1977 and ruled through martial law for more than eight years.

He said the civilian government installed after non-party

elections in 1985 had gone wrong when it formed a political party, the Pakistan Muslim League (PML).

Zia dissolved the PML government, headed by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, May 29, alleging it had allowed corruption and a breakdown in law and order.

Tribal violence

Seven people were killed and more than a dozen injured in riots Saturday as police tried to impose an indefinite curfew on this arid provincial capital following a dispute by transport drivers, hospital sources and eye witnesses said.

The city-wide rioting was triggered by a dispute between bus and truck drivers of the desert Baluchi people and the mountain-dwelling Pathans over the most lucrative routes.

Transport workers clashed early Saturday morning at the city's main bus station, witnesses said.

Thousands pay homage to Panama's ex-leader

PANAMA CITY (AP) — Thousands of mourners paid homage to the late three-time presidential terms but served a total of 2½ years: from 1940 to 1941; 18 months from 1949 to 1951; and 11 days in 1968.

Arias ran again for the presidency in 1984 but lost to a military candidate in elections marred by allegations of widespread fraud.

A staunch nationalist and anti-communist, he gave women the vote and created Panama's social security system during his brief presidencies.

Arias went into self-imposed exile in Miami last December. Although he was an opponent of Panama's de facto military ruler, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, he did not actively participate in the opposition's efforts to force the general to step down as chief of the defence forces.

Noriega is under U.S. indictment on drug trafficking and money laundering charges. He denies the charges.

Founder of the opposition Authentic Panamanian Party, Arias was elected to three 4-year presidential terms but served a total of 2½ years: from 1940 to 1941; 18 months from 1949 to 1951; and 11 days in 1968.

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Population puzzle in Sahara referendum

By Stephen Hughes
Reuter

RABAT — Spain's former colony of Western Sahara, the land of the "Blue People," is a bleak and almost featureless strip of desert in the western bulge of Africa claimed by Rabat as historically part of Morocco.

After a bitter 12-year desert war, its future depends on the United Nations' ability to organise a referendum to decide whether the people want to be independent or part of Morocco.

New proposals handed to the two sides in the conflict, Morocco and the Polisario guerrilla movement, by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Thursday call for a ceasefire and a referendum. They are to reply by Sept. 1.

For centuries the territory has been home to small nomadic tribes who roamed over vast areas in search of meagre pasture for their camel herds and flocks of goats.

They became known as the "Blue People" when a Scottish merchant named Donald McKenzie sold them cheap indigo cloth made in Manchester from a trading post on a rocky islet near the coast.

The nomads made flowing robes out of the cotton cloth

and, since they rarely washed in a land where water is very scarce, the indigo dyed their skins blue.

McKenzie's trading post was shut down by Sultan Moulay Hassan, the present King Hassan's great-grandfather, on the grounds that the Scot was trespassing on Moroccan territory.

The moroccans say the incident is one fact proving that Western Sahara has always been considered an integral part of Morocco. Muslim tribes there have also always paid allegiance to Moroccan monarchs revered as descendants of the Prophet Muhammad.

Moroccan claims were revived shortly after independence in 1956 and gained considerable momentum in the late 1960s after Spain discovered large phosphate rock deposits at Bou Craa in the northern part of the territory.

The discovery, coupled with the considerable fishing potential for sardines, tuna and crustaceans, suddenly made the desolate wastes very valuable.

In 1975 King Hassan took the issue to the World Court in the Hague which ruled that although some tribes traditionally pledged allegiance to Moroccan monarchs this did not constitute sovereign rights.

The World Court's opinion was that sovereignty should be decided by consulting the local population in application of the principle of self-determination.

The green march

But King Hassan decided the court's findings vindicated Moroccan claims.

He organised the "green march" and 350,000 unarmed Moroccans waving flags and copies of the Koran were sent into the territory on Nov. 6, 1975.

Anxious to avoid a colonial war as Spanish dictator Francisco Franco lay dying, Madrid agreed Nov. 14 to transfer administration of the territory to Morocco and Mauritania which was also laying claim to it.

After the last Spanish soldiers left at the end of the following February, guerrillas of the Frente Popular Para la Liberacion de Sakiet el Hamra y Rio de Oro (polisario) backed by Algeria and Libya began a war of attrition for independence of their self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

The guerrillas eliminated Mauritania whose small army was unable to resist Polisario

Security clampdown fails to quell Seoul violence

SEOUL (AP) — Radical students demanding unification with North Korea battled riot police with firebombs and rocks Sunday and angry residents demonstrated to demand an end to the violence.

Protesters staged several attacks with firebombs to try and push back thousands of police surrounding Yonsei University in the west of Seoul. Troopers in green combat fatigues and black visored helmets fired volleys of tear gas and hurled rocks to drive students back in the third day of clashes at the school.

"Advance nation unification" and "Yankies go home," students chanted.

Police armoured vans blasted the students with multiple tear gas launchers as protesters hurled scores of firebombs that exploded in orange showers of blazing gasoline. Martial arts units charged the students to drive them back into the campus.

Students tried to stage several demonstrations in downtown

Seoul, but the handfuls who showed up were dispersed quickly by hundreds of riot police.

National police headquarters said Sunday that 1,027 protesters were arrested in clashes the day before, most of them in Seoul. Officials said 63 police officers had been injured Saturday, most in clashes around Yonsei.

Some 3,000 students were at Yonsei to prepare for a march Monday to the border town village of Panmunjom for talks with North Korean student delegates on reuniting the divided Korean peninsula. Student leaders claimed some 7,000 students would join the march.

The government banned the march and the students have virtually no chance of getting past the heavy police cordon blocking

them. A similar attempt to march to the border June 10 was blocked by police and turnouts at the latest protests have been small.

Hundreds of riot troopers ringed Yonsei Sunday to stop students from entering or leaving. Dozens of students were arrested and police were seen beating and kicking some detainees.

Angry residents and shopkeepers staged several counter-protests to demand students stop violent demonstrations. Some onlookers aid passersby heckled student demonstrators.

"No firebombs by students," residents shouted.

About 200 residents went to the main gate of Yonsei Sunday to demand students end the protest. The two sides yelled and argued.

Citizens also argued with protesters around Myeongdong Cathedral, accusing them of wrecking the Olympic games scheduled to begin Sept. 17.

A column of about 1,000 people who said they belonged to the "Youth League for Protection of the Nation" staged some counter-demonstrations. The group, which had not been heard of before, may have been government-organised, but dozens of onlookers applauded.

"Successful Olympics and economic development," marchers chanted.

Students attacked some of the league marchers with sticks and rocks near Seoul National University medical school before being driven off by police. Hundreds of protesters inside the school were surrounded by riot police.

President Roh Tae-Woo warned Friday that violent protests were a threat to the Olympics and had to be stopped.

"Radical students have seized on the reunification issue to try and mobilise public support for their anti-government campaign."

Bush narrows choices



George Bush

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — George Bush pondered a shrinking list of potential running-mates Saturday as Republicans flocked by the thousands into their hot-and-humid convention city for a week of politics and partying.

Bush, his own nomination set for Wednesday night, was said by one source to have narrowed the list of vice presidential prospects to a half dozen or so names. "I'm not saying whom I'm going to run with," was the vice president's comment in an interview with Cable News network.

The roster was said to include two former rivals for the Republican nomination, Senators Bob Dole of Kansas and Jack Kemp of New York. Also in the running were Dole's wife, Elizabeth, Senators Dan Quayle of Indiana, Pete Domenici of New Mexico and Alan Simpson of Wyoming, as well as at least one or two others.

One party source put former Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander on the list.

With Bush in Washington pondering his choices and polishing his acceptance speech, Republicans spent the pre-convention weekend lighting up the social circuit.

There were 500 separate convention-related receptions, breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, brunches and cocktail parties on the docket for the week by rough count, not to mention the tourist attractions that make New Orleans famous.

Moscow meets Aug. 15 Afghan pullout deadline

MOSCOW (R) — Half the Soviet Union's military force in Afghanistan will have pulled out of the country by Sunday, Moscow Radio said.

Under quadripartite Geneva accords, half of Moscow's 100,000-strong force is due to be out Monday, Aug. 15. The radio report indicated the withdrawal would reach its half-way point one day ahead of schedule.

"The Soviet Union ends Sunday the first stage of its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan," the radio said.

"More and more army units are crossing the Soviet-Afghan border to proceed to their areas of permanent location in the USSR," it said. "The east, north-east and southeast provinces have

no more Soviet soldiers left." Foreign journalists last week witnessed the arrival of Soviet units at Kushka and Termez, on the Soviet side of the border with Afghanistan.

The withdrawal, which began May 15, has accelerated as the Aug. 15 deadline approached.

Soviet and diplomatic sources said that Soviet units pulling out of Kandahar in southeast Afghanistan came under rebel fire and suffered casualties.

General Shah Nawaz Tanai, head of the Afghan General Staff, was quoted in the Soviet armed forces newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda Sunday as saying clashes between Afghan government forces and rebels were intensifying in areas evacuated by

Soviet troops.

He spoke of tension in the provinces of Badkshan, Kunar, Nangarhar, Paktia, Paktika, Kandahar and Helmand "characterised by a sharpening of the political and military struggle between the national powers and opposition forces."

All the provinces he named border on Pakistan, which the Soviet Union and Afghanistan accuse of aiding the rebels in violation of the Geneva agreements.

The accords, signed in April by Pakistan and Afghanistan, set a schedule for the Soviet troop withdrawal and banned interference in Afghan internal affairs. The Soviet Union and the United States are guarantors

Burma rebels call for more protests

BANGKOK (AP) — Anti-government groups in Burma have called for nationwide demonstrations Monday to demand that ousted President Sein Lwin be tried in court and political prisoners be released, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported Sunday from the Burmese capital.

China's Xinhua news agency also reported from Rangoon that the situation there was calm Sunday morning. Other reports said shops and government offices reopened Saturday as normal life resumed in the riot-scarred capital.

Kyodo said the anti-government groups called for more protests as they rallied in major cities Saturday to celebrate the departure of Sein Lwin.

Sein Lwin resigned Friday as president of the country and head of the ruling party after four days of massive street demonstrations that by official count left at least 95 people dead.

Kyodo said the groups also were demanding the government pay compensation to families of those killed in the protests, during which security forces repeatedly tried to disperse crowds.

A Western diplomat reached in Rangoon told AP Saturday that students were passing out leaflets calling for pro-democracy demonstrations after achieving their main aim of ousting Sein Lwin. The former general was widely hated for brutally crushing dissent during Burma's 26 years of

authoritarian rule.

Student protesters last week circulated to Western diplomats a list of demands that included holding a referendum on having a multi-party system in Burma; an end to martial law, imposed Aug. 3 in Rangoon; release of dissidents and student protesters; reinstatement of students held for political activities; reparations for families of those killed or wounded in protests; and reductions in the cost of living.

Sein Lwin, who ruled for only 17 days, took over July 26 as chairman of the country's single political party, the Burma Socialist Programme Party. He replaced Ne Win, who had ruled since leading a 1962 military coup that ended Burmese democracy. Ne Win himself proposed the referendum on a multi-party system in his resignation speech, but the idea was rejected by the party.

It was not clear how much support the students would receive from other groups for more potentially bloody demonstrations. Large numbers of state workers, Buddhist monks and young people, including teenagers, were among the tens of thousands who rallied last week in Rangoon and other towns.

In an article Sunday, the Bangkok Post quoted Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan as denying rumours that Sein Lwin had sought refuge in Thailand.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

'Fifth superpower summit possible'

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev may hold a fifth, farewell summit in New York in September, U.S. News and World Report said Saturday. The weekly magazine quoted an unidentified senior administration official as suggesting such a meeting could take place during the U.N. General Assembly session. It said the Kremlin has pushed hard for what would be the third meeting between the two men in less than 10 months. "A summit would give a big boost not only to the GOP (Republican Party) ticket but to the embattled Soviet leader," it said. White House spokesman Roman Popadiuk told Reuters: "As far as I know there are no plans for any summit."

Pravda unveils new MIG-29 fighter

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party newspaper Pravda Sunday unveiled to the Soviet public the MIG-29 fighter, one of the most advanced combat aircraft in the Soviet arsenal. Pravda printed a photograph of the needle-nosed twin-jet fighter and informed the Soviet public that the aircraft, known to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) as the Fulcrum, would be presented at Britain's Farnborough air show early next month in the first appearance of such an event by a Soviet military aircraft. It described the MIG-29 as a fourth-generation military jet developed to match the U.S. F-16 Falcon advanced fighter, adding it was superior to the F-16 in a number of respects.

Philippine rebels free soldiers

MAMALA, Philippines (AP) — Communist guerrillas released five military officers in this village southeast of Manila Sunday after keeping them hostage for more than two months. Gregorio Rosal, spokesman for the New People's Army rebel unit operating here, ceremoniously unlocked the chains on the prisoners' wrists at about 9:30 a.m. (0130 GMT) before about 170 journalists. The rebels had kidnapped army Lieutenants Abraham Casis, Oscar Singson, Clarito Santos and Rommel Salamanca, and constabulary Sergeant John Jacob on June 1 after raiding a poultry farm near Mamala in Quezon Province, about 115 kilometres southeast of Manila. The five were released to public works and highways secretary Juanito Ferrer, Roman Catholic Bishop Julio Labayan and provincial officials after two weeks of negotiations, which included a temporary cease-fire slated to end at noon Tuesday.

Soviets crack down on gambling

MOSCOW (AP) — The legislature has cracked down on gambling by stiffening penalties for everything from card games to roulette. TASS said Saturday. The official news agency said anybody caught gambling will face fines of 100 rubles (\$162) to 500 rubles (\$810). The average monthly pay in the Soviet Union is 200 rubles (\$324). "Persons playing games, like cards or roulette, for money and valuables and receiving stakes at sport and other competitions in circumvention of the existing order at racetracks and other facilities will no longer get off with a warning or a small fine," the article said. TASS did not say what the fines had been in the past.

U.N. chief receives Nehru award

NEW DELHI (AP) — India has conferred its most prestigious prize, the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, on U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, government-owned television said. The \$107,000 award, named after India's first prime minister, is given annually to "an eminent citizen of the world who contributes to peace and better understanding among nations." "It is a great honour," Perez de Cuellar said, according to a report on government television.

Flying feline survives

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP) — A cat napping in the wheel well of a small plane became a flying feline when the craft took off on a 74.44-kilometre flight. "At least she was intelligent enough to wait until the engines stopped...then she deplaned and stepped down," said Alton Hilton, president of Daytona Beach regional airport. The cat, Patricia, had napped in the plane's front wheel well before, said Allison Barksdale, whose father owns a small grass airfield near here. But no one told the cat that a pilot planned to fly the plane. When it took off, the cat either hung on or jumped into a nook as the plane reached 2000 metres and a speed of more than 125-miles-per-hour. Barksdale said. The Cessna 310 landed without incident.

Woman shocked by honesty

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania (AP) — A New York City woman says she was astonished when her lost wallet, complete with credit cards and \$150 in cash, was returned to her. "It was such a noble gesture, and you can be sure it would never have happened in (New York City's) Manhattan," said Lise Christensen. Yellow Cab Company driver John M. Malich wrapped the wallet in brown paper, taped it securely and mailed it to the woman's home, where it arrived last week. "He went to more effort to wrap and send that wallet to me than I would have gone to for my own family," said Christensen, who lost the wallet while in Pittsburgh on business last month.

Fascination with garbage

INDIANAPOLIS, Maryland (AP) — Six-year-old John Peter Mavraganis is fascinated with garbage disposal. He sketches garbage trucks for fun. He has memorised the names of area trash-disposal companies by studying the advertising pages in the telephone directories. His passion runs so deep that he convinced his baby sitter to write a letter to Eastern Waste Industries (EWI), his favourite, to request the company fulfill his dream: A ride on a garbage truck. John Peter did fulfill his dream. After a sleepless night of expectation, he boarded a garbage truck and headed out with a driver. "He's still flying high," said his mother, Libby Mavraganis. "All day, he's either drawing EWI trucks or out playing dumpster."

Cher unveils new perfume

NEW YORK (AP) — Like glamorous Sophia Loren, passionate Elizabeth Taylor and elegant Gloria Vanderbilt, Cher has sniffed the sweet smell of success, and she wants to share it with women everywhere. Unveiling a luxury perfume that she helped develop and that does, of course, bear her name, Cher appeared wearing a black, skin-tight, off-the-shoulder mini-dress by Bob Mackie, adorned with a peek-a-boo lace hem and one lace sleeve.

O'Toole gets custody of son

FREEHOLD (AP) — Actor Peter O'Toole wept with joy upon hearing that a judge granted him custody of his five-year-old son during the school year, his attorney said. "Peter O'Toole is a fabulous father," said attorney Jeffrey P. Weinstein. "He was not performing in court." Superior court judge Alexander D. Lehrer ruled that Lorcan O'Toole will live with his mother, Karen Somerville O'Toole, during school holidays in December and April and in the summer. "I think she hoped to have been given the opportunity to educate the boy, but she will abide by the judge's decision," said her attorney, Gary Newman.